

**Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from
15th to 21st October 1899.**

Month	Date	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.		°		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches.	
Oct.	15th	102.7	Nil	29.779	72.8	74.4	5.3	69.1	71.2	0.744	70.4	92	NE and ENE ...	232	2.53	Cloudy, o, g, p. d.
"	16th	126.4	1.1	.798	74.4	76.1	7.9	70.2	71.4	.732	69.9	86	NNW and N ...	199	0.05	Chiefly cloudy, o, d.
"	17th	143.8	9.9	.894	75.4	83.5	14.5	69.0	71.4	.716	69.2	82	N, WNW, and N by W.	95	Nil	Chiefly clear, d.
"	18th	141.9	9.1	.951	75.5	84.4	16.0	68.4	71.4	.716	69.2	82	N by W and N ...	70	"	Chiefly clear, d.
"	19th	139.6	5.9	.944	77.0	85.2	16.0	69.2	72.1	.723	69.5	77	N and WSW ...	55	"	Chiefly cloudy, d.
"	20th	144.4	9.9	.961	79.0	87.5	16.9	70.6	73.5	.753	70.7	76	WSW, calm, and variable.	37	"	Clear, d.
"	21st	139.4	5.6	.988	79.5	88.0	15.8	72.2	75.4	.827	73.5	82	NNW and calm ...	27	"	Partially cloudy, d.

The mean pressure of the seven days	...	...	...	...	Inches.
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	29.902
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	...	...	...	...	Hours.
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	...	...	...	...	41.5
The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	...	76.2
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	81.8
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	...	19.6
The maximum temperature	...	...	...	...	88.0
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	...	...	...	...	Miles.
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	...	14
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	%
	...	...	...	...	82
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st October 1899	...	...	...	...	77
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	Inches.
	...	...	...	...	2.58
The total fall from 1st January to 21st October 1899	...	...	...	...	0.85
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office	...	...	...	...	71.86
	...	...	...	...	62.57

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o, overcast; g, gloomy; p, passing temporary showers; d, drizzling rain; Δ, dew; =, fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 23rd October 1899.

G. W. KUCHLER,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Major Works for the month of August 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.			TOLLAGE, 1898-99.		
	During the month.		To end of the month.	During the month.		To end of the month.
1	2		3	4		5
<i>Orissa Circle.</i>	Rs.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Taldanda Canal System	608	9 0	5,336 11 3	2,136 15 3	11,812 13 9	
Kendrapara ditto	4,686	5 10	25,857 3 6	6,863 8 9	30,602 0 11	
High Level Canal, Range I	1,433	7 9	5,496 15 9	1,633 0 3	8,032 15 6	
Ditto, " II	224	12 9	1,324 1 9	255 0 9	1,302 3 0	
Ditto, " III	120	0 0	724 7 6	73 5 9	503 1 3	
Jajpur Canal ...	35	4 9	193 2 0	18 0 6	73 4 6	
Total Orissa Circle ...	7,108	8 1	38,932 9 9	10,979 15 3	52,326 6 11	
<i>South-Western Circle.</i>						
Midnapore Canal ...	8,250	11 6	40,061 0 9	8,077 13 3	39,228 15 3	
Hijili Tidal Canal ...	4,626	10 6	25,596 0 9	6,667 14 3	40,470 14 3	
Total South-Western Circle ...	12,877	6 0	65,657 1 6	14,745 11 6	79,699 13 6	
<i>Sone Circle.</i>						
Patna Canal System ...	3,545	1 6	19,505 4 0	2,803 14 3	15,448 11 9	
Arrah ditto ...	1,921	2 3	13,305 7 9	3,518 15 6	20,608 1 0	
Buxar ditto ...	1,240	4 9	6,380 0 6	798 3 3	4,223 7 3	
Total Sone Circle ...	6,706	8 6	39,190 12 3	7,121 1 0	40,280 4 0	
GRAND TOTAL ...	26,692	6 7	1,43,780 7 6	32,846 11 9	1,72,306 8 5	

Government Transport Service.

CANAL.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.						TOLLAGE, 1898-99.					
	During the month.			To end of the month.			During the month.			To end of the month.		
	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.	Passen- gers.	Goods.	Total re- ceipts.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Orissa Circle.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.
High Level ...	7,287	32	7,050 13 9	32,790	2,547	30,149 14 3	3,464	349	2,469 8 1	16,880	2,423	12,896 6 11
Total Orissa Circle ...	7,287	32	7,050 13 9	32,790	2,547	30,149 14 3	3,464	349	2,469 8 1	16,880	2,423	12,896 6 11

Assessed Tollage Receipts.

CANALS.	EARNINGS, 1899-1900.			EARNINGS, 1898-99.		
	During the month.		To end of the month.	During the month.		To end of the month.
1	2		3	4		5
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Orissa Canals ...	14,168	5 10	69,082 8 0	13,469 7 4	65,222 13 10	
Midnapore Canal ...	8,250	11 6	40,061 0 9	8,077 13 3	39,228 15 3	
Hijili Tidal Canal ...	4,626	10 6	25,596 0 9	6,667 14 3	40,470 14 3	
Sone Canals ...	6,706	8 6	39,190 12 3	7,121 1 0	40,280 4 0	
Total ...	33,752	4 4	1,73,930 5 9	35,336 3 10	1,85,202 15 4	

CALCUTTA,
The 24th October 1899.

A. H. C. MACCARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.

Abstract statement showing Tollage on Canals in Bengal classed as Minor Works and Navigation for the month of August 1899, as compared with that of the corresponding month of the previous year.

CANALS.	TOLLAGE, 1899-1900.		TOLLAGE, 1898-99.	
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Calcutta and Eastern Canals ...	19,754 12 6	99,775 5 0	14,165 9 9	75,241 1 6
Tolly's Nala ...	7,905 14 9	30,784 4 6	4,511 15 0	18,488 7 0
Total. ...	27,660 11 3	1,30,559 9 6	18,677 8 9	93,729 8 6
Orissa Coast Canal ...	2,693 10 3	18,567 6 3	5,156 6 0	32,331 3 6
Nadia Rivers ...	21,207 12 0	50,797 9 0	16,840 9 8	37,050 11 8
GRAND TOTAL ...	51,562 1 6	1,99,924 8 9	40,674 8 5	1,63,111 7 8

CALCUTTA,
The 24th October 1899.

A. H. C. MACCARTHY,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 7th of October 1899, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 7TH OCTOBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 8TH OCTOBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	1,283	1,77,750	2,805	789	1,11,425	1,780
Jute ...	269	99,200	1,589	179	50,875	803
Firewood ...	104	79,025	1,186	78	52,150	800
Other articles ...	978	1,91,675	2,499	739	1,57,575	2,094
Total ...	2,634	5,47,650	8,079	1,780	3,71,825	5,477

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 14th of October 1899, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 14TH OCTOBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 15TH OCTOBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	1,277	1,57,325	2,295	509	85,800	1,391
Jute ...	238	1,03,025	1,632	172	54,275	882
Firewood ...	94	78,575	1,178	46	43,000	538
Other articles ...	691	1,54,325	1,854	608	1,52,180	1,967
Total ...	2,300	4,93,150	6,959	1,335	3,34,755	4,778

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 21st of October 1899, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 21ST OCTOBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 22ND OCTOBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	879	1,07,700	1,627	671	97,780	1,531
Jute ...	154	65,055	1,026	213	99,225	1,603
Firewood ...	62	45,575	685	31	28,250	218
Other articles ...	587	1,19,535	1,505	876	1,91,700	2,376
Total ...	1,682	3,37,865	4,843	1,791	4,16,955	6,728

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	910,670	1,01,480 0 0	11,79,190 0	2,74,470 0 0	14,900 0 0	3,90,130 0 0	25,968	50,800	80,468
Or per mile of railway ...	283	123 0 0	1,414 0	329 0 0	1 0 0	452 0 0†	...	...	...
For previous 14 weeks of half-year ...	2,799,498	12,97,327 0 0	1,41,91,741 0	29,78,930 0 0	2,20,742 0 0	45,02,905 0 0	206,384	570,004	1,075,988
Total for 15 weeks ...	3,010,168	13,98,777 0 0	1,53,00,931 0	32,52,706 0 0	2,40,942 0 0	49,92,435 0 0	541,240	621,204	1,162,433
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	181,438	65,547 0 0	11,69,486 0	2,75,948 0 0	14,533 0 0	3,75,928 0 0	34,521	45,138	70,659
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	222	105 0 0	1,430 0	327 0 0	3 0 0	445 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,746,638	11,70,953 0 0	1,43,62,933 0	28,24,410 0 0	2,37,364 0 0	40,32,727 0 0	5,11,292	553,200	1,064,532

* Audited up to 12th August 1899.

† Excluding steamer earnings.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	19,560	7,860 0 0	62,700 0	6,270 0 0	80 0 0	14,210 0 0	2,205	1,679	3,879
Or per mile of railway ...	227	91 0 0	730 0	73 0 0	1 0 0	165 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 14 weeks of half-year ...	3,53,350	1,06,142 0 0	4,53,349 0	56,689 0 0	2,191 0 0	1,45,029 0 0	26,148	20,830	46,978
Total for 15 weeks ...	3,72,910	1,14,002 0 0	4,16,109 0	42,959 0 0	2,271 0 0	1,59,232 0 0	28,353	22,509	50,862
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	24,020	7,684 0 0	33,054 0	3,556 0 0	67 0 0	11,307 0 0	2,210	2,580	4,790
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	287	89 0 0	408 0	41 0 0	1 0 0	131 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,46,863	1,03,383 0 0	4,11,146 0	34,770 0 0	3,052 0 0	1,41,175 0 0	26,348	20,954	47,302

* Audited up to 12th August 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 33 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	4,830	1,000 0 0	7,980 0	390 0 0	.....	1,390 0 0	700	854	1,554
Or per mile of railway ...	146	33 0 0	240 0	10 0 0	.....	42 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 14 weeks of half-year† ...	47,866	10,803 0 0	43,433 0	3,070 0 0	66 0 0	14,539 0 0	5,563	13,685	19,248
Total for 15 weeks ...	52,696	11,803 0 0	51,413 0	4,000 0 0	66 0 0	15,929 0 0	6,263	14,539	20,802
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...

* Includes ballast train-miles 690.

† Audited up to 12th August 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,220	380 0 0	8,780 0	1,320 0 0	160 0 0	1,760 0 0	200	370	*370
per mile of railway ...	49	15 0 0	355 0	40 0 0	7 0 0	71 0 0			
previous 14 weeks of half-year ...	20,412	6,244 0 0	101,369 0	6,628 0 0	237 0 0	12,900 0 0	2,845	9,970	12,815
Total for 15 weeks ...	21,632	6,624 0 0	110,169 0	6,948 0 0	297 0 0	13,660 0 0	2,845	10,340	13,185
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	20,412	6,244 0 0	101,369 0	6,628 0 0	237 0 0	12,900 0 0	2,845	9,970	12,815
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	49	15 0 0	355 0	40 0 0	7 0 0	71 0 0			
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	20,412	6,244 0 0	101,369 0	6,628 0 0	237 0 0	12,900 0 0	2,845	9,970	12,815

* Includes ballast train-miles 220.
† Audited up to 12th August 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 33.15 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	2,460	940 0 0	9,780 0	780 0 0	120 0 0	1,840 0 0	215	853	1,068*
per mile of railway ...	73	28 0 0	293 0	24 0 0	36 0 0	(a) 53 0 0			
previous 14 weeks of half-year ...	25,935	9,061 0 0	92,440 0	8,831 0 0	983 0 0	16,875 0 0	4,513	12,357	16,870
Total for 15 weeks ...	27,055	10,001 0 0	102,168 0	9,611 0 0	1,103 0 0	20,715 0 0	4,728	12,310	17,038
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,517	850 0 0	5,098 0	574 0 0	120 0 0	1,244 0 0	207	565	772
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	69	25 0 0	230 0	26 0 0	36 0 0	51 0 0			
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	17,987	6,341 0 0	57,967 0	5,704 0 0	1,512 0 0	12,487 0 0	2,301	8,512	10,813

(a) Excluding ferry.
* Includes ballast train-miles 320.
† Audited up to 12th August 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Audited Return of Traffic and Mileage for week ended 26th August 1899 on 33 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of Passengers.	Coaching Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,328	765 6 2	1,715 0	82 2 0	1 8 0	849 0 2	760	618	1,378
per mile of railway ...	101	23 0 0	52 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	25 0 0			
previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	20,796	4,030 3 3	8,400 0	607 9 0	28 12 0	5,600 8 9	3,607	4,441	8,048
Total for 8 weeks ...	24,124	5,095 9 5	10,211 0	689 11 6	30 4 0	6,415 8 11	4,367	5,059	9,426
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	3,328	765 6 2	1,715 0	82 2 0	1 8 0	849 0 2	760	618	1,378
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	101	23 0 0	52 0	2 0 0	0 0 0	25 0 0			
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	20,796	4,030 3 3	8,400 0	607 9 0	28 12 0	5,600 8 9	3,607	4,441	8,048

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Audited Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 26th August 1899 on 33.73 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (including ferry).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,883	614 4 7	7,250 0	909 10 0	93 3 6	1,677 2 1	386	949	1,335
Or per mile of railway ...	56	18 0 0	215 0	29 0 0	.....	47 0 0*	.....	.....	.....
For previous 7 weeks of half-year ...	12,905†	4,307 5 3	28,068 0	3,535 1 0	737 9 1	8,669 15 4	2,027	6,105	8,132
Total for 8 weeks ...	14,847‡	4,921 9 10	45,348 0	4,504 11 0	820 12 7	10,247 1 5	2,465	7,047	10,002
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,148	405 0 0	3,776 0	488 0 0	93 0 0	986 0 0	144	836	980
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	52	18 0 0	171 0	29 0 0	.....	28 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	9,891	3,415 0 0	25,779 0	2,485 0 0	843 0 0	6,713 0 0	1,262	5,395	6,657

* Excluding ferry earnings.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and mileage for the week ended 30th September 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	30,082	12,168 0 0	1,16,345 0	12,833 0 0	2,000 0 0	28,900 0 0	4,642	4,920	9,562
Or per mile of railway ...	281	101 0 0†	837 0	92 0 0	21 0 0	214 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 12 weeks of half-year ...	384,154	1,46,911 0 0	943,928 0	1,02,171 0 0	8,935 0 0	2,58,017 0 0	55,661	44,807	1,00,468
Total for 13 weeks ...	414,196	1,60,079 0 0	1,059,313 0	1,15,003 0 0	11,535 0 0	2,86,017 0 0	63,303	48,836	112,000
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	32,544	11,498 0 0	77,964	6,686 0 0	81 0 0	18,255 0 0	3,805	3,900	7,705
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	260	93 0 0	623 0	83 0 0	1 0 0	146 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	416,674	1,41,825 0 0	861,939 0	51,661 0 0	4,662 0 0	1,97,549 0 0	54,661	39,611	94,272

* Audited up to 19th August 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and mileage for the week ended 7th October 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	42,034	17,112 0 0	1,50,348 0	15,894 0 0	335 0 0	33,341 0 0	4,643	5,174	9,817
Or per mile of railway ...	323	123 0 0	939 0	114 0 0	2 0 0	245 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year ...	414,068	1,57,428 0 0	10,30,289 0	1,12,456 0 0	11,903 0 0	2,82,787 0 0	62,906	49,135	112,000
Total for 14 weeks ...	456,102	1,74,540 0 0	11,60,617 0	1,29,350 0 0	12,238 0 0	3,16,128 0 0	67,549	54,307	121,856
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	40,545	12,944 0 0	97,092 0	8,316 0 0	412 0 0	21,672 0 0	3,798	5,083	8,881
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	324	104 0 0	777 0	68 0 0	3 0 0	178 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	457,319	1,64,770 0 0	9,89,061 0	89,977 0 0	4,474 0 0	2,19,221 0 0	58,459	44,653	1,03,112

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 7th October 1899 on 377 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and an additional 11 miles for goods and parcels traffic only.*

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	25,431	15,900 0 0	2,51,297 0	15,973 0 0	371 0 0	32,343 0 0	3,025	8,641	11,666
Or per mile of railway ...	67'00	42'17	647'07	41'16	0'98	84'29	8'03	23'27	30'20
For previous 13 weeks of half-year ...	278,456	1,60,808 0 0	31,44,018 0	1,66,537 0 0	9,554 0 0	3,36,809 0 0	44,941	99,038	143,977
Total for 14 weeks ...	303,937	1,76,708 0 0	33,95,315 0	1,82,509 0 0	9,925 0 0	3,69,148 0 0	47,966	1,07,677	155,643
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	21,558	12,559 0 0	2,43,950 0	11,363 0 0	308 0 0	24,350 0 0	2,406	4,921	7,327
Per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	75'91	45'31	832'89	36'24	1'05	84'50	8'47	16'80	25'27
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	259,761	1,69,040 0 0	30,57,377 0	1,82,186 0 0	9,276 0 0	3,10,502 0 0	39,423	70,126	109,549

* Jamunamukh to Lumding closed to traffic from 1st October 1899.
† Includes audited figures for week ended 26th August 1899.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 7TH OCTOBER 1899.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 6TH OCTOBER 1898.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1899 TO 7TH OCTOBER 1899.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1898 TO 6TH OCTOBER 1898.			Total increase in 1899.	Total decrease in 1899.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
283	Rs. 32,343	Rs. 84'29	283	Rs. 24,350	Rs. 84'50	388	Rs. 7,51,601	.....	293	Rs. 6,49,426	.....	Rs. 1,01,633	.....

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate earnings for the week ending 7th October 1899	Rs. A. P.
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	5,063 0 0
Decrease	12,473 0 0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 7th October 1899	7,410 0 0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	99 4 5
Decrease	244 9 1
Receipts from 1st July to 7th October 1899	145 4 8
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	1,62,959 0 0
Decrease	1,83,183 0 0
	20,224 0 0

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate earnings for the week ending 14th October 1899	Rs. A. P.
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	7,219 0 0
Decrease	16,605 0 0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 14th October 1899	9,286 0 0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	141 8 9
Decrease	323 10 0
Receipts from 1st July to 14th October 1899	182 1 3
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	1,70,178 0 0
Decrease	1,99,688 0 0
	29,510 0 0

REGISTERED No. 29.]

No. 44 of 1899.



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The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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**RESOLUTION ON THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT ON THE
HOWRAH BRIDGE FOR THE YEAR 1898-99.**

No. 2055 Marine.

Government of Bengal.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Dated Calcutta, the 25th October 1899.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Administration Report on the Howrah Bridge for the year 1898-99.

The following statement shows the actual receipts and expenditure of the bridge during the year 1898-99 as compared with those of the preceding nine years:—

PARTICULARS.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Receipts.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts from railway traffic	1,36,604	1,51,408	1,33,811	1,35,364	1,14,408	1,24,633	1,23,678	1,40,310	1,23,954	1,19,727
Ditto local do.										
Ditto hire of steamer <i>Helvetia</i>					50	66	25	50	164	67
Ditto <i>Howrah or Buckland</i>				21			16	250		14
Interest on Government securities	23,003	23,003	23,003	23,003	20,936	24,404	24,404	23,763	32,330	32,182
Proportion of rent of Head Office									448	583
Miscellaneous	1,604	1,512	7,360	770	608		401	122	153	321
Proportion of earnings of steam-tug <i>Hetty</i>						5,625	12,657	5,378	13,606	12,770
Rent of Bridge approach land							1,433	3,332	3,177	2,903
Total	1,66,471	1,80,923	1,69,174	1,64,158	1,45,002	1,53,317	1,62,489	1,67,195	1,79,024	1,68,826
Deficit	8,653				8,659			637		
Total	1,75,024	1,80,923	1,69,174	1,64,158	1,53,661	1,55,317	1,63,409	1,67,732	1,79,024	1,68,826
<i>Expenditure.</i>										
Interest on loans	7,074	7,168	7,311	7,276	7,338	7,336	7,415	7,500	7,561	7,611
Proportion of Head Office charges	16,169	16,156	15,486	15,131	15,335	12,469	13,098	11,775	13,041	12,323
Establishment	32,365	33,071	32,032	31,604	32,864	31,418	32,826	31,013	32,978	33,701
Working expenses	25,394	23,611	27,87	23,451	20,004	21,556	23,482	12,734	12,826	20,427
Repairs	60,420	63,813	44,005	33,045	47,011	38,732	46,028	51,708	25,303	36,068
Ferry steamer <i>Buckland</i>	20,015	16,127	24,319	22,315	17,762	15,358	16,488	18,050	18,409	16,046
Proportion of municipal taxes and repairs to officers' quarters, storeyard and police quarters.	9,037	6,373	4,254	5,795	7,907	7,421	5,946	12,371	11,458	3,546
Miscellaneous										
Proportion of establishment, &c., of steam-tug <i>Hetty</i> .						6,073	6,502	15,007	9,483	11,074
Renewals	667							6,506	16,016	375
Proportion of salary of Traffic Manager										
Compassionate allowance	984	347								
Total	1,75,024	1,67,966	1,57,004	1,30,562	1,53,611	1,40,423	1,55,075	1,67,732	1,47,006	1,41,771
Net Revenue		13,257	11,160	27,576		14,795	8,824		31,968	27,055
GRAND TOTAL	1,75,024	1,80,923	1,69,174	1,64,158	1,53,611	1,55,317	1,63,409	1,67,722	1,79,024	1,68,881

2. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1,66,471, showing a decrease of Rs. 14,452 as compared with those of the previous year. The receipts from railway traffic were Rs. 1,36,604 as against Rs. 1,51,408 in 1897-98.

3. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,75,024, showing an excess of Rs. 7,358 over that of the previous year. The wearing surface of the roadway of the bridge was repaired, and all worn out battens and defective surface planks and beams underneath renewed. Several of the defective superstructure timbers were replaced. The pontoons were repaired, and the decks of all the pontoons were chipped and painted and well cleaned and coated with oil inside; and the fenders and sheathings of the pontoons were changed as found necessary. Brackets and large iron stanchions were fitted underneath draw-bridge roller beams. The bridge winches were kept clean and well oiled and all other gear was kept in good order, and all repairs carried out to keep the bridge in good condition.

4. As in the preceding year, in addition to the ordinary receipts, the following amount, which may be classed as extraordinary, was received :—

Interest on Government securities of pontoon—	Rs.
Renewal fund	2,240
The corresponding expenditure under the same head was—	
Sinking fund on loans	4,351

5. The cost of lighting the bridge with electricity was Rs. 10,726 against Rs. 9,823 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 903. The electric-lighting of the bridge was maintained throughout the year without any trouble, and the arrangement of having the engines at the Howrah Workshop continued to work well.

6. The bridge was opened for the passage of vessels on 151 occasions, of which 101 were on the ordinary fixed days of the week, and 50 were on Sundays on special application. The number and description of vessels which passed through the bridge on these occasions are shown below :—

VESSELS.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sea-going vessels	110	235	326	241	282	291	309	254	414	362
Inland steamers and flats ...	1,286	1,364	1,231	1,116	1,205	1,060	1,129	1,400	1,059	941
Steam-tugs and steam launches ...	781	792	712	677	667	549	453	366	540	491
Port Commissioners' vessels ...	83	20	63	38	45	161	183	66	92	53
Government steamers and flats ..	...	1	2	1	2	2	...	...	6	16
Total	2,260	2,412	2,324	2,073	3,201	2,063	2,074	2,086	2,110	1,863

7. No sea-going vessels collided with the bridge during the year under review, but there was a large increase in the casualties to (1) inland steamers and flats and (2) cargo and passenger boats. In both these cases the number of casualties was unprecedented, being 22 in the one case and 133 in the other. Of the boats which collided with the bridge 16 were lost and four lives. There were altogether 169 cases of collision, as compared with 129, 109 and 78, respectively, in the three preceding years.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

R. B. BUCKLEY,
Secy. to the Govt of Bengal.

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 30th October 1899.

Burdwan.—Rainfall at Sadar ·77, Kalna ·19, Katwa ·11, Raniganj ·05. Weather cloudy and rainy. Threshing of *aus* nearly over. The recent rain has done immense good to *aman*. Sowing of *rabi* going on. Standing crops doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease in Katwa has ceased. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	15	} per rupee.
Kalna	13 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Katwa	14	
Raniganj	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Birbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar ·32, Rampur Hât ·39. Weather seasonable. *Aus* being harvested and fields prepared for *rabi* cultivation. Rice crop is promising. Price of common rice at Sadar 15 seers and Rampur Hât 14 to 16 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—Rainfall at Bankura ·17, Vishnupur ·11. Weather cloudy with drizzling rain. *Rabi* sowing continues. Prospects of *aman* excellent. Sugarcane and winter rice doing well. Cattle-disease reported from one village in outpost Joyrampur. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice at Bankura 16 seers and at Vishnupur 15 seers per rupee.

Midnapore.—Rainfall at Sadar ·11, Contai ·47, Tamluk ·12, Ghatal ·01. Weather cloudy. Prospects of winter rice good. Grass-hoppers appeared in some places in Dantun. *Rabi* crops are being sown. Cattle-disease reported from some places in the Sadar subdivision. Fodder and water ample. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	15	0	} per rupee.
Contai	18	0	
Tamluk	14	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Ghatal	15	0	

Hooghly.—Rainfall at Sadar ·09, Serampore ·94, Jahanabad ·14. Prospects of *aman* good. *Rabi* crops thriving well. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—Rainfall at Sadar ·03, Uluberia ·04. Weather cloudy. *Aman* doing well. Sowing of *rabi* continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—Rainfall at Sadar ·09, Barasat ·08, Basirhat ·20, Diamond Harbour ·11. Weather cloudy with cyclonic wind and occasional drizzling. Prospects of standing crops good. Cyclonic wind said to have caused slight damage to *aman* paddy in the Sadar subdivision. Lands are under cultivation for *rabi* crops. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	12	0	} per rupee.
Barasat	14	8	
Basirhat	13	14	
Diamond Harbour	12	18	

Nadia.—Rainfall at Sadar ·46, Kushtia ·48, Meherpur ·12, Ohuadanga ·88, Ranaghat ·34. Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects of *aman* good. Sowing of *rabi* crops continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice stationary.

Murshidabad.—Rainfall at Sadar ·21, Jangipur ·74, Kandi ·23. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* good. *Kalai* doing well. Sowing of *rabi* continues. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14	} per rupee.
Kandi	18	
Jangipur	14	

Jessore.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·70, Jhenida ·91, Magura 2·12, Narail 1·11, Bangaon ·36. Weather cyclonic. Sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Prospects of *aman* paddy good. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16	} per rupee.
Jhenida	18	
Magura	17	
Narail	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Bangaon	18	

Khulna.—Rainfall at Sadar '94, Bagerhat 2·81, Satkhira 1·20. Weather variable. *Aman* paddy doing well. The rainfall of the week has done much good to the standing crops. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.
Sadar	16½
Bagerhat	16
Satkhira	14

} per rupee.

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Sadar '25, Nator '27, Naugaon '27. Prospects of standing crops good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice sells at 17½ seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Average rainfall '10. Weather getting cooler. Standing crops good. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice 15 seers a rupee in Dinajpur town and 17 seers at Thakurgaon.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall at Sadar '06, Alipur Duars '17. Weather seasonable. *Haimanti* paddy doing well. Lands are being prepared for tobacco. Common rice sells at 14½ seers a rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Darjeeling.—Rainfall at Darjeeling '44. Weather seasonable. *Hills*—*Haimanti* paddy, *bara marua*, *phaphar*, *kalai*, wheat, barley and *tori* are doing well. *Terai*—*Haimanti* paddy, *kalai*, and sugarcane are doing well. Coarse rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.
Hills	9
Terai	18

} per rupee.

Bhutta sells at Darjeeling 20 seers and at Kalimpong 32 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Gaibanda '49, Kurigram '09, Nilphamari nil. Sowing of *rabi* crops and washing of jute going on. Prospects good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 17 seers per rupee. Cattle-disease prevailing in Nilphamari.

Bogra.—Average rainfall '99. Prospects of crops good. Cultivation of *rabi* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 17 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sadar '78, Sirajganj 1·10. Weather seasonable, cloudy in the beginning of the week. Prospects of crops good. Price of common rice 15 seers per rupee. Cattle-disease at Sara outpost.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar '89, Manikganj 1·88, Munshiganj 1·26, Narayanganj 1·16. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·68, Netrokona '08. Weather cloudy. Prospects of crops good. Health of cattle good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 17 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 3·72, Goalundo '99. Weather seasonable. State and prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 15 seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall at Sadar 7·67. Weather rainy and overcast. Prospects of crops fair. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Sadar 2·97, Brahmanbaria '62, Chandpur 3·49. Weather cloudy and rainy. Prospects of *aman* favourable. Average price of common rice 17½ seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—Rainfall at Sadar 7·05, Feni 3·40. Prospects of crops fair. Land is being ploughed for *rabi* crops. Cattle-disease at Chagalnaya abating. Fodder and water good. Common rice (*aman*) 15 seers and (*aus*) 18 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Rainfall at Sadar 19·42, Cox's Bazar 1·67. Early winter rice crop damaged by excessive rain. Water and fodder sufficient. Common rice 14 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rainfall at Sadar 1·93, Barh 1·10, Bikram 2·38, Dinapur 1·05, Bihar 1·27, Hilsa 1·15. Rain has benefited all crops on the ground, and will greatly improve *rabi* prospects, which are now good. Sugarcane cutting and ploughing for more *rabi* sowing continue. Fodder and water for cattle sufficient. Common rice in Patna sells at 16½ seers per rupee.

Gaya.—Rainfall at Sadar '42, Jahanabad '94, Aurangabad '32, Nawada '16. *Rabi* sowing going on. Rain wanted for paddy crops. Sugarcane doing well. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall at Sadar 2'00, Buxar '86, Bhabua '05, Sasaram '53. Rain to some extent useful to standing crops and *rabi* sowings. Fodder and water abundant. Seventy-five cases of cattle-disease in Sasaram. Common rice selling at Sadar at 12 seers per rupee.

Saran.—Rainfall at Sadar '45. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* sowing going on. Rain will benefit paddy and improve prospects of *rabi*. Average prices per rupee are—Common rice 12 seers 10 chitaks and *makai* 13 seers 10 chitaks, against 14 seers 15 chitaks and 23 seers 4 chitaks, respectively, the normal rates.

Champanan.—Rainfall at Motihari '10, Bettiah '21, Bagaha, '27 Ramnagar '67. The slight rain did some good to *aghani* rice, and facilitated *rabi* sowings. Prospects continue fair. Price of common rice 14½ seers and of maize 16 seers per rupee.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall at Sadar 2'31, Hajipur 4'05, Sitamarhi '28. Prospects fair. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Rice doing well. Prices are—Common rice 12 seers, wheat 12 seers, barley 15 seers, *makai* 14 seers, gram 13 seers, *rahar* 14 seers, and *marua* 18 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—Rainfall at Sadar 3'14, Samastipur 3'70, Madhubani 1'43. Prospects of standing crops good. The recent rain has greatly benefited the paddy crop. Preparation of lands for *rabi* continues. Fodder and water sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Common rice sells at Sadar 12½ seers per rupee.

Monghyr.—Rainfall at Sadar '73. Standing crops doing well. *Rabi* being sown. Rain urgently wanted. Cattle-pox reported from Ballia out-post in the Begusarai subdivision. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	Ot.	
Monghyr	11	3	} per rupee.
Begusarai	12	0	
Jamui	13	8	

Bhagalpur.—Weather seasonable; occasionally cloudy. Rainfall at Sadar '06, Banka '08, Madhipura '30, Supaul 1'25. Standing crops doing well, but rain required for *aghani* paddy and *rabi* sowings. Cattle-disease in Supaul and Banka. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14	} per rupee.
Banka	12½	
Madhipura	14	
Supaul	18	

Purnea.—Rainfall at Sadar 9'06. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aghani* crop good. Steeping and washing of jute nearly finished. *Rabi* sowings going on well. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16	} per rupee.
Kishanganj	17	
Araria	19	

Malda.—Rainfall at Sadar '45, Shibganj '06, Gajol '15. Weather—first part of the week fair; latter part cloudy, ending with rain. *Rabi* sowing going on. Prospects of standing crops continue good. Cattle-disease reported from some places. Coarse rice sells at 16 seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Sonthal Parganas.—Average rainfall '25. Crops all doing well. More rain would be welcome, but is not expected. Average prices are—common rice 13 seers 6 chitaks and maize 19½ seers per rupee. Cattle-disease in Jamtara and Rajmahal. Fodder and water sufficient.

Cuttack.—Rainfall at Sadar '03, Jajpur '41, Kendrapara '95, Banki '08. Weather seasonable and cloudy. *Laghu sarad* maturing. *Guru sarad* in ear. Sugarcane, *rabi*, and turmeric thriving. Jute and cotton being harvested. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	14	7	} per rupee.
Jajpur	17	1	
Kendrapara	21	0	
Banki	13	12	

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 1, 1899. 1859

Balasore.—Rainfall at Sadar ·85. Weeding of *sarad* continues. *Aus* is being harvested. Sugarcane thriving well. Prospects of crops good except on high lands in Agarpura circle. Sowing of *rabi* crops commenced. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 16 and 18 seers at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Cattle-disease reported from places. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—No rain at Angul and Bisipara. Weather cloudy. Low land paddy doing well. *Rabi* still being sown. Common rice sells at 16 seers per rupee at Angul and 12 seers at Bisipara. Cattle-disease prevails in Khondmals.

Puri.—Rainfall at Sadar ·40, Khurda ·05. Weather cloudy. *Laghu* already withered. Prospects of *sarad* fair. *Kutthi* being sown. Sugarcane thriving. Other miscellaneous crops doing well. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	Ch.	
Sadar	12 0
Khurda	13 2
Interior of district	12 6
			} per rupee.

Hazaribagh.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Continued drought causing injury to the paddy crops. Common rice sells at 11½ seers per rupee.

Ranchi.—Rainfall ·03. Weather seasonable. Paddy very seriously damaged by drought. *Rabi* sowing retarded. Rice sells at Ranchi 10 seers per rupee and in the interior 13 seers. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient.

Palamau.—Rainfall at Sadar ·01, Hosenabad 2·00, Chhattarpur ·99, Ranka ·45, Untari ·18. Weather seasonable. Slight rain also reported from some other places except in south of district. Upland paddy dead. Lowland paddy dying. *Rabi* cultivation will start at once where rain has fallen. Prices at Sadar are—Common rice 10 seers 11 chitaks, barley 15½ seers, wheat 10 seers 11 chitaks, *mahu* 3¾ seers, and *marua* 16 seers 14 chitaks per rupee.

Manbhum.—Rainfall at Sadar ·01. Weather seasonable. *Bhadoi* crops fair. Winter rice an average crop. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Purulia and Topchanchi. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 13 seers and at Gobindpur 12 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singhbhum.—Rain on 28th instant ·10. More rain wanted for *rabi* crops. Rice sells at Chaibassa 14 seers per rupee. Average price in district—Common rice 15½ seers.

General Summary.—There was general, but very unevenly distributed, rainfall during the week, excessive in Chittagong, where some damage was done to the rice. In the Patna Division much good was done to the crops in Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga, but the fall was too slight in the other districts to materially benefit the high-level rice. In the Chota Nagpur Division the fall did not exceed a tenth of an inch except in parts of Palamau. Consequently the rice is dying, with serious consequences in Ranchi and Hazaribagh, which with Singhbhum and Palamau will have very poor crops. Elsewhere the crops are flourishing, and the prospects of the spring crops have been much improved by the rain. The price of common rice is almost stationary. Cattle are in good condition, there being plenty of fodder in every district.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 31st October 1899.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 22nd to 28th October 1899.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	°	°		°	°	Inches.		%			Inches.	
	Oct. 22nd	145.4	9.7	29.989	79.7	89.5	10.8	72.7	75.1	0.811	72.9	81	NNW and calm ...	45	Nil	Chiefly clear, d.
	" 23rd	143.6	7.7	.900	80.3	88.7	14.5	74.2	74.4	.773	71.5	74	N, NNW, and calm	43	"	Chiefly clear, d.
	" 24th	140.3	8.0	.858	78.9	87.7	17.2	70.5	72.6	.718	69.3	73	NNW and calm...	37	"	Chiefly clear, d.
	" 25th	141.4	4.9	.873	78.9	87.6	10.1	71.5	73.7	.763	71.1	77	ESE, SE, and calm	55	"	Chiefly cloudy, d.
	" 26th	109.5	Nil	.899	76.6	79.8	3.4	74.4	73.3	.777	71.6	85	ESE, ENE, and E	159	0.02	Cloudy, o, d.
	" 27th	98.4	Nil	.861	74.9	77.6	4.4	73.2	73.2	.796	72.4	92	ENE and NNE ...	163	0.06	Cloudy, o, d.
	" 28th	126.9	0.5	.837	76.2	81.1	9.1	72.0	73.8	.803	72.6	80	N and NNW ...	63	0.01	Chiefly cloudy, o, d.

The mean pressure of the seven days Inches. 29.881

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 29.861

The total number of hours of bright sunshine Hours. 30.8

The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine 79.8

The mean temperature of the seven days 77.9

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 79.5

The extreme variation of temperature 19.0

The maximum temperature 89.5

The highest velocity of the wind in one hour Miles. 14

The mean relative humidity % 82

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 78

The total fall of rain from 22nd to 28th October 1899 Inches. 0.09

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 1.76

The total fall from 1st January to 28th October 1899 71.95

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office 64.33

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

d, dew; =, fog; o, overcast; d, drizzling rain.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 30th October 1899.

G. W. KÜHLER,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 1, 1899. 1861

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 28th October 1899,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 28TH OCTOBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 28TH OCTOBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	1,127	1,72,335	2,721	724	1,17,840	1,949
Jute ...	272	91,775	1,376	309	1,20,625	1,892
Firewood ...	72	52,100	781	138	1,11,875	1,704
Other articles ...	655	1,47,600	1,971	754	1,68,775	2,110
Total ...	2,126	4,63,710	6,849	1,925	5,18,815	7,655

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Abstract of principal Commodities carried over the Bengal Central Railway during the month of August 1899, as compared with the same month of previous year.

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1898.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal and Coke carried for the Public and Foreign Railways.	1,816	51	1,463	.....	1,865	1,463	402	.....
Cotton, raw	.....	5	.....	13	5	13	.....	8
Cotton, manufactured—								
Twist and yarn, European	134	.....	77	.....	134	77	57	.....
Ditto, Indian	4	.....	.....	1	4	1	3	.....
Piece-goods, European	51	.....	95	.....	51	95	.....	44
Ditto, Indian	1	1	.....	2	2	2	.....	.....
Drugs and Chemicals—								
Intoxicating, other than Opium	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Non-intoxicating—								
Cinchona bark	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others	3	.....	4	.....	3	4	.....	1
Dyes and Tans—								
Indigo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Myrabolams	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Cutch	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turneric	5	10	1	38	31	39	.....	18
Alizarine and Aniline Dyes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Al (Morinda Citrifolia)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Grain and Pulse—								
Wheat	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Rice in the husk	.....	.....	81	57	.....	138	.....	129
Do. not in the husk	12	1,468	71	363	1,480	334	1,146	.....
Jawar and bajra	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gram and pulse	31	373	71	39	404	110	294	.....
Others	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hides and Skins—								
Hides of cattle—								
Dressed or tanned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raw	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Skins of sheep, &c.—	.....	53	.....	56	53	56	.....	3
Dressed or tanned	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Raw	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Horns	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hemp and other fibres—								
Jute—								
Raw	.....	5,563	.....	224	5,563	224	5,339	.....
Gunny-bags and cloth	37	6	13	7	43	20	23	.....
Lac—								
Stick	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shell	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leather, manufactured	2	.....	1	.....	2	1	1	.....
Liquids—								
Alc and beer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Spirit of all kinds, including country spirit	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Wine	2	.....	1	.....	2	1	1	.....
All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquor, other than alc and beer	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Metals—								
Copper, unwrought	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brass, ditto	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Copper, wrought	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Brass, ditto	3	4	4	5	7	9	.....	2
Iron and steel—								
Cast	2	2	.....	.....	4	.....	4	.....
Unwrought	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wrought	20	2	57	1	23	58	.....	35
Manufactures of iron and steel	5	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	5	.....
Others	14	30	21	26	34	47	.....	13
Oils—								
Kerosine	133	3	327	19	135	346	.....	211
Castor	11	.....	.....	.....	11	.....	11	.....
Cocunut	11	.....	20	.....	11	30	.....	9
Mustard and rape	57	2	.....	.....	59	.....	59	.....
Others	1	.....	67	.....	1	67	.....	66
Oilseeds—								
Linseed	.....	34	.....	96	34	96	.....	62
Rape and mustard	.....	49	79	43	72	122	.....	50
Til or jiuji	23	361	.....	77	361	77	384	.....
Poppy	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Earth-nuts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Castor	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Opium	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Paper and Pasteboard	10	3	15	2	13	17	.....	4
Provisions—								
Ghee	3	.....	5	.....	3	5	.....	2
Dried fruits and nuts	.....	49	1	18	49	19	30	.....
Others	76	67	78	64	143	117	26	.....
Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways—								
Locomotives, engines, and tenders, and parts thereof	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Carriages and trucks, and parts thereof	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Materials—								
Steel rails and fish-plates	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sleepers and keys of steel and cast-iron	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other sorts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Salt	378	.....	292	31	378	323	55	.....

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 1, 1899. 1863

ARTICLES.	1899.		1898.		TOTAL.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1898.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Saltpetre, &c.—								
Saltpetre	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other saline substances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balast stone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	78	...	201	...	78	201	...	123
Silk piece-goods—								
Foreign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spices—								
Betel-nuts	1	121	2	230	123	232	...	160
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ginger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chillies	2	17	1	61	10	62	...	43
Cardamoms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Others	6	19	13	10	25	23	2	...
Stone and lime	19	13	59	3	32	61	...	29
Sugar—								
Refined or crystallised, including sugar-candy.	58	...	61	...	58	51	7	...
Unrefined, viz., molasses and jaggery or gur, and other saccharine produce.	23	90	21	75	113	106	17	...
Tea—								
Foreign	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Timber	41	...	108	...	41	108	...	67
Tobacco—								
Unmanufactured	47	54	43	60	101	112	...	11
Manufactured—								
Cigars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other sorts	1	...	2	...	1	2	...	1
Wool—								
Raw	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manufactured	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carpets and rugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Piece-goods, European	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1
Indio, Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other sorts of manufactures	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other articles of merchandise	189	180	172	202	369	374	...	5
Total	3,314	8,630	3,516	1,762	1,1944	5,878	7,767	1,191

CALCUTTA, the 28th October 1899.

T. SIDDLE,
Auditor.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 30th September 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	(a)	Rs. A. P. (a)	Mds. S. (b)	Rs. A. P. (b)	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	314,890	3,23,136 11 0	48,64,039 0	9,33,900 4 0	22,033 6 0	12,79,159 15 0	93,378	161,023	274,300
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	188 14 7	.....	546 0 4	12 14 1	747 13 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	3,984,360	40,03,076 9 0	16,94,94,886 30	767,96,091 6 0	12,60,727 0 0	1,29,69,404 15 0	51,163,342	51,005,700	58,058,042
Total for 13½ weeks ...	4,239,040	42,26,213 4 0	5,43,58,895 30	97,30,681 10 0	2,91,760 0 0	1,42,48,634 14 0	1,245,620	2,098,723	3,332,342
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	291,233	2,88,619 12 5	43,68,732 0	7,12,368 12 8	18,646 15 9	10,19,535 9 7	91,099	156,168	247,267
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	169 4 4	.....	417 11 8	10 15 0	597 15 0	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 13½ weeks of previous year ...	3,935,763	38,91,617 2 3	5,12,96,362 20	91,44,534 11 7	2,67,706 10 8	1,33,03,068 8 6	1,215,341	2,037,180	3,242,521

(a) The increase is due to movements of pilgrims, chiefly from stations on "A" districts to Gaya, and from Gaya to stations on "A," "L," and "B" districts.
 (b) The increase is in heavy upward despatch of food-grains from almost all the principal stations and in coal traffic—Gaurangdi and Jherriah branch.
 * Added No. of passengers 2,729 and deducted Rs. 4,423 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended
 † Do. Mds. 1,92,934 and " 6,688 } 19th to 26th August 1899.
 ‡ Deducted " 3,781 }
 § Audited figures up to the week ended 26th August 1899.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th October 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	(a)	Rs. A. P. (a)	Mds. S. (b)	Rs. A. P. (b)	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	332,299	2,63,039 5 0	46,91,734 20	9,39,448 12 0	22,073 0 0	12,94,539 1 0	94,328	176,197	270,525
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	212 3 10	.....	549 8 5	12 14 5	774 5 8	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	4,239,040	42,26,213 4 0	5,43,58,895 30	97,30,681 10 0	2,91,760 0 0	1,42,48,634 14 0	1,245,620	2,098,723	3,332,342
Total for 13½ weeks ...	4,571,345	45,80,251 9 0	5,90,50,030 20	1,06,70,130 6 0	3,18,532 0 0	1,56,73,213 15 0	1,339,048	2,264,919	3,604,967
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	309,927	2,06,578 12 0	45,26,334 20	8,22,096 12 8	17,476 3 1	11,46,451 1 4	89,987	169,063	249,050
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	179 15 8	.....	482 2 3	10 4 0	672 5 11	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 13½ weeks of previous year ...	4,246,696	41,98,495 15 3	5,58,23,617 10	99,66,731 8 10	2,85,182 13 9	1,44,50,410 5 10	1,305,338	2,166,246	3,461,571

(a) The increase is due to "Doorga Poojah" traffic and movements of pilgrims from Gaya to stations on "A," "L," and "B" districts.
 (b) The increase is in heavy upward despatch of food-grains from almost all the principal stations on B, C, D and L districts.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 30th September 1899 on 22·23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	17,716	4,099 8 0	14,325 30	465 13 0	9 0 6	4,594 5 0	1,103	25	1,128
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	184 6 7	.....	21 13 8	0 0 6	204 10 9	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	210,439	50,096 7 0	71,00,017 20	75,215 12 0	7108 0 0	56,020 3 0	13,538	1,134	14,672
Total for 13½ weeks ...	228,154	54,795 15 0	1,83,344 10	5,701 9 0	117 0 0	60,014 8 0	14,631	1,219	15,850
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	18,040	4,204 5 2	6,129 10	293 3 0	6 7 6	4,503 14 8	1,128	60	1,188
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	189 2 0	.....	13 3 0	0 4 8	203 9 8	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 13½ weeks of previous year ...	242,940	54,075 1 9	1,11,417 10	4,256 11 0	80 1 0	59,420 13 9	14,906	1,200	16,106

* Added No. of passengers 1,925 and Rs. 503 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 19th
 † Ditto Mds. 2,685 and " 21 } and 26th August 1899.
 ‡ Deducted " 5 }
 § Audited figures up to the week ended 26th August 1899.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th October 1899 on 22.28 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	TOTAL.
		Rs. A. P.	M. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	19,732	4,958 10 0	14,296 30	614 0 0	9 0 0	5,581 10 0	1,090	99	1,189
Or per mile of railway ...	228 0 11			27 9 11	0 6 6	251 1 4			
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	238,124	54,795 15 0	1,63,344 10	5,701 9 0	117 0 0	60,614 8 0	14,631	1,319	15,950
Total for 14½ weeks ...	257,956	59,754 9 0	1,90,641 0	6,315 9 0	126 0 0	66,196 8 0	15,727	1,311	17,038
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	18,445	4,587 8 8	12,423 0	418 8 0	8 8 6	4,006 8 11	1,096	90	1,186
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	205 7 6	.....	18 9 7	0 6 0	224 5 1	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 14½ weeks of previous year ...	1963,385	59,648 10 3	1,23,839 10	4,670 8 0	94 9 6	64,407 6 6	16,096	1,350	17,446

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 30th September 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	14,680	16,046 15 0	87,437 30	13,049 13 0	67 0 0	29,163 12 0	6,897	4,126	11,023
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	98 14 6	.....	80 7 0	0 6 7	179 13 1	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	216,540	2,07,385 13 0	110,21,787 30	11,42,877 7 0	2806 0 0	3,41,069 4 0	586,626	540,569	1,127,195
Total for 13½ weeks ...	231,220	2,13,432 12 0	11,09,325 10	1,55,927 4 0	673 0 0	3,70,233 0 0	63,523	44,685	108,208
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	16,475	10,945 7 3	72,377 0	11,623 4 0	64 11 3	23,660 6 5	7,636	3,092	10,728
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	104 6 11	.....	71 13 2	0 6 5	176 10 6	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 13½ weeks of previous year ...	227,569	1,80,969 11 6	7,38,108 10	1,19,631 5 6	720 4 6	3,01,361 5 6	54,612	39,915	124,527

* Added No. of passengers 685 and
 † Deducted Mds. 16,332 and added
 ‡ Added
 § Audited figures up to the week ended 30th August 1899.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 7th October 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	14,931	17,025 0 0	94,440 10	14,092 13 0	68 0 0	31,185 13 0	7,907	4,128	11,135
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	104 15 0	.....	86 13 10	0 6 8	192 3 6	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	231,329	2,13,432 12 0	11,09,325 10	1,55,927 4 0	673 0 0	3,70,233 0 0	63,523	44,685	108,208
Total for 14½ weeks ...	246,180	2,30,457 12 0	12,03,653 20	1,70,020 1 0	941 0 0	4,01,418 13 0	100,630	48,813	1,49,443
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	17,844	16,208 6 4	92,334 10	13,718 9 1	80 16 0	32,007 12 5	7,391	3,965	11,256
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	112 3 8	.....	84 8 11	0 8 0	197 4 7	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 14½ weeks of previous year ...	2,44,903	2,06,198 0 10	2,21,020 20	1,24,800 14 7	801 2 6	3,33,309 1 11	102,003	43,780	1,45,783

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 30th September 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings estimated.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	13,212	Rs. A. P. 5,961 11 0	Mds. c. 27,589 10	Rs. A. P. 2,553 13 0	Rs. A. P. 14 0 0	Rs. A. P. 8,529 8 0	3,086	280	3,366
Or per mile of railway ...	...	75 10 1	...	32 0 4	0 2 10	108 3 8	...	...	...
For previous 11½ weeks of half-year.	*59,104	*47,729 8 0	12,44,425 10	120,394 5 0	2168 0 0	68,801 8 0	15,640	13,140	28,780
Total for 12½ weeks ...	112,400	53,690 14 0	2,72,014 20	22,858 2 0	182 0 0	76,731 0 0	18,686	8,420	19,106
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Added No. of passengers 63 and deducted Rs. 413.

† Do. Mds. 20,197 and .. 2,078 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 19th

2 Do. .. 18 } and 26th August 1899.

‡ Audited figures up to the week ended 26th August 1899.

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th October 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	13,286	Rs. A. P. 6,183 10 0	Mds. c. 27,585 30	Rs. A. P. 2,518 0 0	Rs. A. P. 14 0 0	Rs. A. P. 10,015 10 0	1,945	281	2,226
Or per mile of railway ...	...	78 7 1	...	32 0 11	0 2 10	127 0 10	...	...	...
For previous 12½ weeks of half-year	113,406	53,690 14 0	2,72,014 20	22,858 2 0	182 0 0	76,731 0 0	18,686	8,420	19,106
Total for 13½ weeks ...	126,704	59,874 8 0	3,09,590 10	26,676 2 0	182 0 0	86,746 10 0	17,641	3,701	21,342
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DAOGA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 824 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	168,160	Rs. A. P. 84,850 0 0	Mds. c. 10,90,920 0	Rs. A. P. 2,62,980 0 0	Rs. A. P. 14,610 0 0	Rs. A. P. 3,52,020 0 0	35,604	40,000	75,604
Or per mile of railway ...	196	103 0 0	1,318 0	303 0 0	2 0 0	408 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 16 weeks of half-year†	2,007,606	13,53,954 0 0	1,54,97,457 0	32,58,438 0 0	2,42,760 0 0	48,63,161 0 0	541,880	620,094	1,161,934
Total for 16 weeks ...	2,175,866	14,68,804 0 0	1,67,98,777 0	35,09,298 0 0	2,57,370 0 0	53,55,181 0 0	577,384	672,590	1,249,934
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	212,209	1,22,020 0 0	11,71,306 0	2,40,131 0 0	12,356 0 0	3,58,514 0 0	36,589	63,000	99,589
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	268	146 0 0	1,431 0	303 0 0	3 0 0	454 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	2,958,627	12,93,963 0 0	1,55,53,529 0	30,73,541 0 0	2,50,719 0 0	63,15,342 0 0	546,881	604,920	1,151,801

NOTE.—Decrease in coaching traffic due to Dooars Pujah in the corresponding week last year.

* Excluding steamer earnings.

† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Actual traffic for the week ...	17,370	6,190 0 0	67,290 0	5,630 0 0	130 0 0	11,950 0 0	2,473	2,048	4,525
per mile of railway ...	201	72 0 0	789 0	65 0 0	2 0 0	130 0 0	...	...	...
previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	8,74,570	1,13,325 0 0	5,12,343 0	42,604 0 0	2,894 0 0	1,53,573 0 0	38,353	32,500	70,853
Total for 16 weeks ...	3,91,840	1,19,515 0 0	5,79,633 0	48,234 0 0	2,714 0 0	1,70,523 0 0	40,831	24,557	65,388
COMPARISON.									
Actual for corresponding week of previous year ...	24,300	9,104 0 0	49,012 0	4,933 0 0	95 0 0	14,132 0 0	2,352	2,360	4,712
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	281	108 0 0	558 0	57 0 0	1 0 0	164 0 0	...	...	...
Actual to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,71,063	1,12,427 0 0	4,59,150 0	39,693 0 0	3,177 0 0	1,55,207 0 0	38,700	33,514	72,214

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 33 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Actual traffic for the week ...	3,340	900 0 0	10,400 0	420 0 0	10 0 0	1,330 0 0	760	164	924
per mile of railway ...	121	27 0 0	318 0	13 0 0	...	40 0 0	...	...	...
previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	13,303	11,950 0 0	55,279 0	3,600 0 0	73 0 0	15,532 0 0	7,417	13,005	20,422
Total for 16 weeks ...	57,183	12,850 0 0	65,769 0	3,920 0 0	83 0 0	16,862 0 0	8,177	13,169	21,346
COMPARISON.									
Actual for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	1,371 0	60 0 0	...	60 0 0	...	528	528
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	42 0	2 0 0	...	2 0 0	...	...	...
Actual to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	1,371 0	60 0 0	...	60 0 0	...	528	528

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Actual traffic for the week ...	840	230 0 0	5,190 0	270 0 0	110 0 0	630 0 0	200	404	604
per mile of railway ...	34	10 0 0	210 0	11 0 0	4 0 0	25 0 0	...	...	...
previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	22,474	6,807 0 0	1,12,156 0	7,468 0 0	748 0 0	15,663 0 0	3,200	10,463	13,771
Total for 16 weeks ...	33,314	7,037 0 0	1,17,326 0	7,768 0 0	868 0 0	15,683 0 0	3,402	10,466	13,875
COMPARISON.									
Actual for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Actual to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Includes ballast train-miles 264.

† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 33.19 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,970	840 0 0	14,000 0	1,080 0 0	40 0 0	2,500 0 0	830	702	1,532
Or per mile of railway ...	50	25 0 0	423 0	31 0 0	.....	(a) 75 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	29,343	9,974 0 0	1,06,941 0	9,918 0 0	1,371 0 0	21,161 0 0	4,923	12,777	17,700
Total for 16 weeks ...	30,313	10,814 0 0	1,23,931 0	11,598 0 0	1,311 0 0	23,781 0 0	5,273	13,479	18,752
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,567	668 0 0	5,313 0	364 0 0	175 0 0	1,216 0 0	314	354	668
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	71	30 0 0	240 0	17 0 0	.....	47 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	19,364	6,806 0 0	63,310 0	6,088 0 0	1,083 0 0	14,073 0 0	2,505	8,866	11,371

(a) Excluding ferry.

* Includes ballast train-miles 384.

† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and mileage for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	30,358	15,009 0 0	1,12,771 0	14,540 0 0	155 0 0	29,704 0 0	4,642	5,376	10,018
Or per mile of railway ...	234	1115 0 0	803 0	106 0 0	1 0 0	231 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	456,102	1,74,540 0 0	11,69,617 0	1,29,350 0 0	12,138 0 0	3,16,138 0 0	67,548	54,307	1,21,855
Total for 16 weeks ...	486,460	1,89,549 0 0	12,82,338 0	1,43,890 0 0	12,303 0 0	3,45,832 0 0	72,190	59,681	1,31,871
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	29,580	11,009 0 0	1,34,068 0	12,536 0 0	142 0 0	24,075 0 0	3,635	4,263	7,898
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	237	90 0 0	1,073 0	100 0 0	1 0 0	207 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	436,798	1,66,789 0 0	10,93,147 0	72,512 0 0	4,616 0 0	3,43,807 0 0	62,092	49,916	1,12,008

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 14th October 1899 on 1,085 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boats.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 1,085 miles open ...	(a) 120,650	47,530	(a) 7,03,450	67,770	(a) 15,230	(a) 1,30,830	20,420	(b) 25,194	45,614
Or per mile of railway ...	111.20	43.78	648.34	62.34	14.04	111.36	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year (c) ...	1,893,856	6,60,036	83,06,842	9,69,023	2,05,384	16,53,444	3,68,236	3,67,706	7,35,942
Total for 15 weeks ...	1,944,506	7,16,566	89,09,292	10,16,793	2,20,614	19,54,274	3,98,666	3,92,530	7,91,196
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 925 miles open ...	111,238	37,319	3,06,636	34,087	7,708	79,654	20,073	(d) 16,503	36,576
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	120.26	40.35	332.06	37.45	8.33	85.11	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,631,168	5,32,649	39,21,306	7,17,069	1,79,971	14,79,679	3,28,641	3,23,345	6,52,000

(a) The increase is due to the increased mileage and the traffic being abnormally low last year owing to breaches in the line on the Tirhut Section.

(b) Includes 3,002 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

(c) .. audited figures up to week ending 18th August 1899.

(d) .. 3,114 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 21st October 1899 on 1,085 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boats.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 1,085 miles open	113,400	Rs. 46,450	Mds. 7,33,870	Rs. (a) 68,880	Rs. (a) 14,830	Rs. (a) 1,31,860	30,687	(b) 36,035	52,712
Or per mile of railway	104.53	42.85	660.98	63.31	13.67	121.53	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year (c)	1,946,780	7,11,594	88,89,550	10,06,463	2,19,943	19,87,680	395,000	395,627	791,627
Total for 14 weeks	2,060,180	7,60,044	96,18,330	10,75,033	2,34,773	20,60,849	422,653	421,658	844,305
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 925 miles open	99,334	37,671	4,07,833	40,536	10,306	58,603	21,140	(d) 17,742	38,881
Per mile of corresponding week of previous year	107.38	40.73	440.09	43.83	11.24	63.37	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,730,493	6,30,330	63,38,841	7,57,594	1,90,308	15,68,233	340,790	341,087	680,877

(a) Increase is due to increased mileage and the traffic being abnormally low last year owing to breaches in the line on the Tirhut section.
 (b) Includes 4,838 miles of ballast trains run on open line.
 (c) audited figures up to week ending 2nd September 1899.
 (d) " 3,638 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

ASSAM-BENGAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 377 miles open for all descriptions of Traffic and an additional 11 miles for goods and parcels traffic only.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week	23,054	Rs. 16,431 0 0	Mds. 2,45,268 0	Rs. 15,820 0 0	Rs. 487 0 0	Rs. 33,687 0 0	2,823 7.49	8,111 30.30	10,934 28.39
Or per mile of railway	61.16	43.58	632.13	40.80	1.10	86.48	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	303,967	1,76,987 0 0	34,02,313 0	1,82,199 0 0	9,912 0 0	3,69,068 0 0	48,042	107,619	155,661
Total for 14 weeks	327,021	1,93,388 0 0	36,47,581 0	1,98,028 0 0	10,830 0 0	4,01,765 0 0	50,866	115,730	166,595
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	21,896	11,896 0 0	2,39,057 0	2,654 0 0	344 0 0	20,894 0 0	2,233	6,207	8,440
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	58.16	31.69	635.89	7.04	0.91	55.30	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	281,093	1,60,285 0 0	37,76,434 0	1,70,840 0 0	9,620 0 0	3,81,306 0 0	41,716	76,413	118,129

* Includes audited figures for week ending 2nd September 1899.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Assam-Bengal Railway.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 14TH OCTOBER 1899.			RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 15TH OCTOBER 1899.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1899 TO 14TH OCTOBER 1899.			TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1ST APRIL 1898 TO 15TH OCTOBER 1898.			Total increase in 1899.	Total decrease in 1899.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
200	Rs. 23,687	58.48	200	Rs. 20,894	73.80	200	Rs. 7,83,876	.....	200	Rs. 6,70,323	.....	Rs. 1,13,553	.....



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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RESOLUTION ON THE REPORT ON EXCISE ADMINISTRATION
IN THE LOWER PROVINCES FOR 1898-99.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT—SEPARATE REVENUE.

Dated Darjeeling, the 2nd November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 344T.F.

READ—

The Report of the Commissioner of Excise for the year 1898-99 with the observations of the Board of Revenue.

MR. K. G. GUPTA held the office of Excise Commissioner throughout the year. He had immediately under him three Deputy Collectors, one as his Personal Assistant, and two as Travelling Inspectors of Excise. In 18 districts, 14 of which have central distilleries, the excise administration was in charge of Special Deputy Collectors, while in 26 districts ordinary Deputy Collectors were in charge of excise in addition to their regular duties. Sub-Deputy Collectors were in charge of the nine most important distilleries, the remainder being in charge of non-gazetted officers. In the executive branch of the subordinate establishment, and among the clerks in the office branch, the numbers remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 201 and 141, respectively; while four of the old excise darogas were replaced by men of a superior class.

2. *Inspections.*—The tours of the Excise Commissioner occupied 121 days, and the Inspectors of Excise were on tour for 238 and 252 days, respectively. Every district and distillery and every depôt open throughout the year was visited by the Excise Commissioner himself or by one of his Inspectors. Most of the ganja warehouses, and a large number of outstills and excise shops, were also inspected, while all but 16 subdivisions in the province were visited by the Inspectors. With regard to inspections by Collectors, it is reported that the Sadar Excise offices in Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga were not inspected at all, and that the distillery in Dumka, which had not been inspected once in the previous year, was again not inspected during the year under review as often as the rules require. In 14 out of the 18 districts, in which Special Deputy Collectors were employed, the prescribed minimum of touring (150 days) was attained. In Darbhanga and Ranchi, where the deficiency was most conspicuous, the Board state the explanations received are not satisfactory. For Deputy Collectors of the ordinary staff, who are employed on excise work, the minimum period of touring is fixed at 90 days; in 17 out of 26 districts, the prescribed amount of touring was done, the deficiency in the remaining nine districts varying from 10 days in Bankura to 77 in Singhbhum. The reasons generally given for insufficient tours are the paucity of officers at headquarters, the exigencies of judicial or other work, and the ill-health of the officers concerned. In two districts, Manbhum and Birbhum, where the touring was insufficient in 1897-98, as well as in 1898-99, the Deputy Collectors who were in charge for the greater part of both years were Mr. W. H. Mackenzie and Babu Bisvesvar Bhattacharji. The explanations given of the short tours performed by these officers are insufficient. The Board will be requested to insist on the prescribed minimum being fully worked up to in future.

3. *Revenue and charges.*—The excise revenue was, as in previous years, realised from fees on licenses for the wholesale and retail sale of distilled and fermented liquors and drugs, distillery fees, and duty on the actual quantity of country rum, country spirit prepared in central distilleries, opium, and hemp drugs that passed into consumption. Duty on imported liquors is an item of the Imperial Customs revenue. The following statement shows the gross excise revenue, the charges, net revenue, and percentage of charges on gross revenue for the last five years :—

Period.	Revenue.	Charges.	Net revenue.	Percentage of charges.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1894-95 ...	1,25,67,855	6,37,858	1,19,29,997	5·07
1896-96 ...	1,33,77,705	6,74,582	1,27,03,123	5·04
1896-97 ...	1,34,10,577	6,83,351	1,27,27,226	5·09
1897-98 ...	1,27,48,059*	6,77,203*	1,20,70,856*	5·3
1898-99 ...	1,34,27,228	6,74,503	1,27,52,725	5·02
Difference of the past two years.	+6,79,169	—2,700	+6,81,869	—·28

* Revised figures.

In order, however, to obtain the true figures for the net revenue derived from excise, there should be added to the charges here given Rs. 12,308 on account of refunds, and Rs. 5,565 for the excess of rewards distributed over fines realised, the latter of which are credited not to excise, but to Law and Justice. This raises the expenditure to Rs. 6,92,376 and reduces the net revenue to Rs. 1,27,34,852 against Rs. 1,20,46,526 in 1897-98. Thus in place of the large reduction in the receipts which was noted last year, a considerable advance, not only on the revenue of the previous year but on the receipts of 1896-97, has now to be recorded, adding another to the many proofs of the prompt return of the province to prosperity since the late famine. Calculated on the population ascertained at the Census of 1891 (after allowing for natural increase at the rate of seven per thousand per annum), the incidence of excise revenue per head of population during the year under

of sale did not increase in proportion to the quantities which were ultimately sold. The consumption of each of these articles had received a check during the previous year, and it was not to be expected that the vendors, with their experience of that year, would offer very high fees for the shops during the year under report. The license fees operate as a check on sudden fluctuations in revenue, and the loss sustained by the vendors by an unforeseen decrease in the consumption of one year is recouped by the lower fees which they pay in succeeding years.

6. In the following statement the gross excise revenue of the past five years is classified according to the articles from which it is derived :—

ARTICLES OF EXCISE.	REVENUE.					1898-99 COMPARED WITH 1897-98.	
	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Country spirit	55,61,516	59,11,840	60,80,461	55,81,012*	60,97,793	5,16,781	...
Rum	4,32,227	4,68,296	4,18,780	4,14,685	3,16,618	...	99,052
Imported liquors	2,61,588	2,87,996	2,94,420	2,91,635	3,06,950	14,716	...
Beer	538	485	507	726	5,449	4,723	...
Tari	9,97,852	10,24,031	10,10,481	10,14,265*	10,28,219	13,954	...
Pachwai	8,82,336	4,39,284	4,48,481	3,70,343	4,46,441	75,598	...
Charas	15,888	17,985	19,591	19,932	22,058	2,126	...
Sidhi, sabai or bhang	55,394	59,498	65,564	64,083	67,240	3,157	...
Majum	4,119	1,710	1,495	1,482	1,493	11	...
Madak	89,439	77,882	...	...	...	...	...
Chandu	27,624	30,360	...	...	...	...	...
Spirits used in arts	890	1,097	812	126	320	194	...
Ganja	24,92,755	26,80,819	27,31,522	26,57,452	27,20,140	62,688	...
Opium	22,13,721	23,05,129	23,25,603	23,18,593	24,01,026	82,428	...
Miscellaneous	12,465	13,544	17,862	13,240	15,086	1,846	...
Total	1,25,67,855	1,33,77,705	1,34,10,579	1,27,48,059*	1,34,27,228	7,79,291	99,052
						Net increase ... 6,79,169	

* Revised figures.

The above statement shows that country spirits continue to bring in the largest revenue, and that the chief increase during the year occurred under this head. Taking the percentage of revenue under each head on the total excise revenue, country spirits stand first with a percentage of 44·8, followed by hemp drugs (21·7), opium (18·7), tari (7·4), *pachwai* (2·9), and rum (2·3). This order is the same as that of the preceding year, except that *pachwai* and rum have changed places, the revenue from the former having exceeded that from rum during the past year.

7. *Current settlements.*—The settlements for the current year, as made up to the end of May last, show a marked increase of Rs. 7,33,102 as compared with the previous year, and this has been shared by all the divisions in the province. The most marked increase occurred in the Chota Nagpur Division (Rs. 2,55,463), followed by the Patna (Rs. 2,05,022) and Presidency (Rs. 1,08,213) Divisions. The improvement is undoubtedly owing to the cessation of scarcity and the bountiful harvests of the past year which have resulted in the settlement of a larger number of licenses and enhanced fees during the current year.

8. *Country spirit.*—Country spirit forms the chief source of excise revenue in Bengal. Its manufacture and sale are carried on under two systems—the fixed duty or *central distillery* and the *outstill* system. The central distilleries are maintained by Government; stills are worked within them by distillers, and the liquor is passed out, after the levy of the distillery fee and the duty, for sale at licensed shops. The distillery fee, which is levied at the rate of 2½ annas per London-proof gallon, except in certain metropolitan districts where the rate is 1 anna per gross gallon, is taken as a contribution to the cost of the establishments, and as rent for the use of the premises. Duty is levied at varying rates, ranging from Re. 1·14 to Rs. 5 per London-proof gallon for different districts. Outstills, on the other hand, are licensed at monthly fees, no separate duty being charged. The central distillery system is in force throughout the Burdwan Division, except in certain wild

tracts of Bankura and Midnapore, and also throughout the Presidency, Dacca, and Orissa Divisions, with the exception of the hilly tracts of Cuttack along the frontier of the Garhjat States, and in the Sonthal Parganas district. In the Patna Division and the districts of Monghyr, Bhagalpur, and part of Hazaribagh, a dual system of central distilleries and outstills is maintained, the areas served by the distilleries being defined, and outstills being placed at such distances as to minimise the risk of smuggling of outstill liquor into those areas. In the Rajshahi and Chittagong Divisions, in the Chota Nagpur Division, except a small portion of Hazaribagh and Manbhum, and in the districts of Purnea and Malda of the Bhagalpur Division, the outstill system alone is in force.

Of the total revenue from country spirit, Rs. 31,05,315 was contributed by central distilleries under the three heads of license fees (Rs. 10,73,628), still-head duty (Rs. 19,67,440), and distillery fees (Rs. 64,247), and Rs. 29,92,478 by outstills, the former showing an increase of Rs. 3,65,252 and the latter of Rs. 1,51,529 over the receipts of the previous year. The number of outstills sanctioned rose from 2,096 in 1897-98 to 2,104 in the year under review, and the number settled from 2,018 to 2,076, while the number of shops sanctioned for the sale of distillery spirits fell from 1,199 to 1,190, and the number settled from 1,193 to 1,186. The increase in the number of outstills open during the year is due to the re-opening of outstills in the wilder parts of Cuttack where they had been closed for some time owing to the introduction of the distillery system, and to the fact that a large number (78) of the sanctioned number of outstills had remained unsettled in the previous year owing to the famine. In the Burdwan Division there was an increase of revenue in Burdwan, Birbhum, Hooghly, and Howrah, against a decline in Bankura and Midnapore, the net increase being Rs. 23,906. The increase was largest in Hooghly, where the employment of a special detective force has resulted in increased consumption of duty-paid liquor. The increase in the consumption of duty-paid liquor in Bankura, which has a bad name for illicit dealings, was not maintained during the year under review. The Presidency Division shows an increase in revenue of Rs. 2,19,294 shared by all the districts, Calcutta alone contributing Rs. 1,80,046. In the Rajshahi Division with the districts of Purnea and Malda, a small increase of Rs. 858 was obtained. The Dacca Division shows an increase in revenue of Rs. 9,302, which is shared by all the districts except Faridpur. In the Chittagong Division, where the consumption of spirits is very limited, the revenue rose during the year by Rs. 3,961.

The Patna Division, which for excise purposes is taken to include the districts of Monghyr, Bhagalpur, and Hazaribagh, and is under the dual system of central distilleries and outstills, yields the largest revenue from country spirits; the amount realised in the past year being Rs. 20,81,267 against Rs. 18,95,726 in 1897-98, the increase occurring in both the distillery and outstill areas. Four of the five districts in the Bhagalpur Division have already been discussed, and there remains only the Sonthal Parganas, from which an increase of Rs. 11,001 in revenue is returned. The Orissa and Chota Nagpur Divisions have also returned an increase of Rs. 12,264 and Rs. 50,654, respectively.

Before the re-introduction of the distillery system generally in Bengal, the revenue from country spirits was (with the exception of one year, 1883-84) highest in 1887-88 (52 lakhs), after which it began to decline, till it stood at 45 lakhs in 1890-91. In 1891-92 it commenced to rise steadily till 1896-97, when it reached Rs. 60,80,000. In 1897-98 it receded to Rs. 55,81,000, owing to the famine, but made a complete recovery during the year under review, the figure standing at nearly Rs. 60,88,000. In last year's Resolution, reference was made to the relative consumption of outstill and distillery liquor in different districts of the Province and the proportion of revenue brought in by vend license fees compared with duty, which had led the Government of India to infer a widespread prevalence of illicit distillation and sale and the smuggling of outstill liquor into distillery tracts. The Supreme Government suggested the adoption of certain measures to safeguard the excise revenue from country spirits, and the matter has been engaging the attention of the Board and the Local Government. The final conclusions of this Government are held in abeyance, pending a further report from the Board. Meanwhile, as an outcome

of this correspondence, an experiment is being tried in the districts of Bankura and the Sonthal Parganas, which have a bad reputation for illicit dealings, by which distillery liquor is coloured red in order to facilitate the detection of outstill liquor when smuggled into distillery areas.

In accordance with the desire expressed by Government last year, the Excise Commissioner has incorporated in the present report a statement showing the consumption of outstill and distillery liquor in different districts of the Province, the incidence of taxation per head, and the proportion of revenue brought in by vend license fees compared with duty. He prefaces his remarks by the statement that the figures of consumption of outstill liquor are based on information furnished by the licensees and by inspecting officers, and are almost valueless for purposes of close comparison. If any value whatever be attached to them, they would seem to show that the incidence of revenue is no greater in the distillery than in the outstill areas, though the distillery system obtains in the wealthiest tracts of Bengal; and that there are great inequalities of consumption between distillery districts, between outstill districts, and between the distillery and outstill areas of the same district. All this would *prima facie* establish the existence of illicit dealings, but the Excise Commissioner urges that in analysing the figures, sufficient allowance should be made for those ethnological and religious factors that account for the drinking habits of a people, *e.g.*, the chief drinkers are Hindi speaking races, aborigines, and mixed tribes, and to a much less extent Bengalis, while Uriyas are almost total abstainers; consumption also varies inversely with the proportion of Muhammadans in the population. Mr. Gupta has also urged elsewhere that the consumption of country spirit should not be considered by itself, but along with that of rum, *pachwai*, *tari*, and imported liquors, and that the incidence of this combined revenue is a safer guide than that of the revenue from country spirit alone. It seems, however, to the Lieutenant-Governor that, making all allowances for these disturbing factors, it is difficult to resist the conclusion that illicit consumption does prevail in Bankura, Midnapore, in parts of Hooghly, Burdwan, Nadia, and Murshidabad, the Sonthal Parganas, and to some extent in Orissa, and that there is leakage of revenue in the distillery areas in Bihar and Hazaribagh. That this is so is not denied by the Excise Commissioner whose criticisms are confined to pointing out the extent to which inferences may safely be drawn from the figures supplied.

9. *Sites of shops.*—The rules forbidding the opening of shops in a bazaar, on high roads or close to places of public resort, seem to have been carefully observed, due regard being given to public opinion in the matter. During the year a liquor shop in the 24-Parganas, an outstill in Monghyr and three *tari* shops in Hooghly, Howrah, and Shahabad, respectively, were removed in deference to local opinion; a liquor shop in the 24-Parganas and two outstills in Jalpaiguri were closed at the instance of a mill manager and the managers of tea estates; in Midnapore the site of a *pachwai* shop was changed on the complaint of a missionary, and in Angul an outstill was transferred from the interior of a village to a place outside.

10. *Country rum.*—The supply of country rum is derived from Sibpur near Howrah, from Sakri in Darbhanga, from Shahjahanpur in the North-Western Provinces, and from Aska and Arkot in Madras. More than three-fifths of the demand is supplied by the Shahjahanpur distillery. The revenue from rum fell from Rs. 4,14,665 to Rs. 3,15,613 in the year under review, the quantity consumed having declined from 77,979 gallons London-proof to 50,053 gallons London-proof. Neither the Board nor the Excise Commissioner have as yet been able to trace the real cause of the striking decline in consumption, and the Lieutenant-Governor will await with interest the special report promised by the Board. Meanwhile, it would appear that the raising of the duty on country rum in January 1898 from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 has had a more serious effect on consumption than was anticipated by the Excise Commissioner. The bulk of the trade in rum is carried on through Calcutta, where the quantity imported during the year amounted to 36,920 gross gallons. Excluding the quantity exported to Assam and Port Blair, (4,682 gross gallons), the amount consumed in Bengal itself was 32,238, of which 20,910 gross gallons were consumed in Calcutta and 11,328 in the mufassal. The quantity

further imported into the Bengal mufassal direct from Shahjahanpur amounted to 2,032 gross or 2,029 London-proof gallons.

11. *Imported liquor*.—The excise revenue from imported liquor, which consists exclusively of fees for wholesale and retail licenses, rose from Rs. 2,91,635 to Rs. 3,06,350. Nearly one-half of the total revenue was collected in Calcutta. The number of wholesale licenses was reduced by 12, and that of retail licenses by 2. The changes are ascribed to the ordinary fluctuations of trade. The Lieutenant-Governor regrets to notice a large increase in the importation of German white spirit, which is mainly used for the purpose of being manipulated into brandy and whisky. This question, however, is not one which can be dealt with by the excise authorities, who can do nothing to stop the practice beyond bringing it to notice.

12. *Tari*.—No duty is charged on tari, the sap of the palmyra or date tree, but revenue is derived from license fees for the sale of both fermented and unfermented tari. The number of licenses for the sale of the fermented liquor during the year increased from 13,233 to 13,262, and for unfermented tari from 1,568 to 1,872. The total receipts rose from Rs. 10,14,265 to Rs. 10,28,219, the bulk of the increase occurring under fees for fermented tari. The increase under this head was heaviest in the Patna district, and is explained by the fact that owing to the late settlement of the tari licenses no advance fees were paid in March 1898, nearly the whole of the demand being realized within the year under review. As usual, the bulk of the tari revenue was derived from the Patna Division and the districts of Monghyr and Bhagalpur, which contributed between them 64·3 per cent. of the total receipts. Calcutta shows the heaviest decrease, which is ascribed to the plague scare. The Madras tree-tax system, the theory of which is that every tree yielding *tari* should pay a tax according to a fixed rate, is being tried, as far as is possible without amending the law, in selected areas in the districts of the Patna Division, and Monghyr, Bhagalpur, Cuttack, Puri and Hooghly.

13. *Pachwai*.—This liquor, brewed from rice, forms the favourite beverage of the aboriginal tribes found in the Burdwan and Chota Nagpur Divisions, the Sonthal Parganas, and the western half of Murshidabad. Another variety, prepared from millet (*marua*), is much drunk in Darjeeling. The revenue is derived from license fees for sale and for home-brewing, and these fees together yielded during the year a revenue of Rs. 4,46,441 against Rs. 3,70,843 in 1897-98, nearly three-fourths of which was collected in the Burdwan Division. The total number of licenses for sale rose from 1,592 to 1,606, and the number of licenses for home-brewing rose from 7,911 to 8,655.

14. *Ganja*.—The revenue from ganja is derived from license fees and duty which varies according to quality; thus "chur" pays a duty of Rs. 9 per seer, "round" Rs. 7-8, "flat (small twigs)" Rs. 7-4, and "flat (large twigs)" Rs. 6. In Orissa, however, the rates are Rs. 7-8 for *chur*, Rs. 6-4 for round, Rs. 6 for flat (small twigs), and Rs. 5 for flat (large twigs). Flat ganja (large twigs) which pays the lowest rate of duty seems to be most in favour. The following statement shows the main statistics relating to ganja revenue in the last three years:—

	Licenses sanctioned.	Licenses issued.	Quantity consumed.	Revenue.
	No.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
1896-97	... 2,708	2,688	5,008	27,31,522
1897-98	... 2,712	2,706	4,651	26,57,452
1898-99	... 2,711	2,699	4,797	27,20,140

The area of land brought under ganja cultivation during the year again decreased by 577 bighas, and the quantity produced by 376 maunds. The report called for last year on the question of extending the area under cultivation so as to ensure that the supply shall not fall short of the demand has not been received, but it is remarked by the Excise Commissioner that the present tract with but slight additions is quite capable of meeting all demands in full, and that there need be no apprehension of the undue contraction of the area so long as the cultivators can get a fairly remunerative price for the drug. The Board agree in this opinion. The system of supplying Rajshahi ganja to the Tributary States in Orissa, under which the Chiefs

have been requested to suppress the cultivation of the plant in the States and obtain Rajshahi ganja at cost price and issue it to consumers after levying duty, continues to work well, and under it the smuggling of foreign (Garhjat) ganja is reported to have practically ceased. The quantity exported to the North-Western Provinces was 350 maunds, to Nepal 199 maunds, to Assam 348 maunds, while 216 maunds were distributed between Cooch Behar, the Garhjat States and other places.

15. *Bhang, Majum and Charas.*—*Bhang*, which is also known under the name of *siddhi* and *sabzi* (dried leaves of the hemp plant), grows wild in many parts of Bengal, and is collected for sale chiefly in Monghyr, Bhagalpur and Purnea. The number of licenses for the sale of *bhang* rose from 330 to 351, and the revenue increased from Rs. 64,083 to Rs. 67,240, but the consumption fell from 966 maunds to 965 maunds. The revenue from *majum*, a sweet preparation of *bhang*, amounted during the year to Rs. 1,493 against Rs. 1,482 in 1897-98. *Charas*, or the resin exuding from the unseeded female hemp plant, is the essence of ganja in its greatest purity and strength, and is imported into Bengal from the Punjab. The consumption remained nearly the same as in the previous year, viz. 20 maunds, while the revenue increased from Rs. 19,932 to Rs. 22,058.

16. *Opium.*—Excise opium, i.e., opium offered for sale in these Provinces as distinguished from provision opium prepared for export, is supplied to licensed vendors from the district treasuries at prices varying from Rs. 17 a seer in the Patna Division to Rs. 33 a seer in Orissa. The following statement illustrates the demand during the last three years:—

			Licenses.	Consumption.	Revenue.
			No.	Mds.	Rs.
1896-97	...	...	3,180	2,110	23,25,603
1897-98	...	...	2,990	2,086	23,18,598
1898-99	...	...	3,623	2,164	24,01,026

The number of permits to licensed druggists to sell opium and its preparations and poppy-heads for medicinal purposes, which are included in the number of licenses above, increased by 644, while the number of ordinary licenses for retail sale fell by 11. The increase in consumption and revenue is ascribed to the general prosperity during the year. The question of the smuggling of opium to Burma has been receiving close attention during the last two years, and the main remedy against this smuggling seems to lie in the employment of adequate preventive measures in Burma. The bulk of the illicit traffic is carried on in steamers from Calcutta, and the Customs Preventive staff has been on the alert, and made several important seizures. Enquiry has shown that so far as duty-paid opium is concerned, its sale in the producing districts is too small to leave room for much smuggling.

17. *Methylated spirit.*—The quantity of this spirit, which is either imported or methylated locally, issued during the year fell from 66,448 to 65,619 gallons, but the revenue remained almost stationary, viz. Rs. 4,611. There was a large decrease (19,467 gallons) in the imports of ready-made methylated spirit, and this is ascribed to the working of the new rules which were intended to prevent the consumption of methylated spirit for drinking.

18. *Offences against the Opium and Excise laws.*—The number of arrests for offences against the Excise laws increased from 3,634 to 3,830. A large proportion of these cases are of a technical nature relating to illicit possession of various exciseable articles; and the fact that in spite of the admittedly large extent to which the Excise laws are broken, so few cases of real importance have been instituted, would seem to indicate that detective ability in the Excise Department is not of so high a standard as it might be. The arrest of 1,510 persons was effected by the Police, while arrests by Excise officers numbered 2,320, the percentage of convictions in the cases instituted by Excise officers being 89·2 against 85·7 in those instituted by the Police. There was an increase in the number of arrests for illicit distillation and in the number of persons convicted, the figures being 459 and 405 against 248 and 210 in the previous year. For this increase, the Sonthal Parganas are mainly responsible. The amount of fines imposed for breaches of the Excise laws and rules was Rs. 71,909, of which Rs. 52,533, or 73 per cent., were realised.

A sum of Rs. 58,098 was distributed in rewards to Police and Excise officers and informers against Rs. 53,615 in the previous year. Considering that the sole motive for breaking the Excise laws is the desire for pecuniary gain, and that the offenders whom it is the main object of the law to reach, viz., those who make a profit out of breaking it, may reasonably be considered able to pay a larger proportion of the fines inflicted than 73 per cent., it may be doubted whether too much energy has not been expended in securing the punishment of technical, as opposed to serious, breaches of the law. The districts in which illicit dealings are believed to be most prevalent have been indicated in paragraph 8, and it behoves the Excise Commissioner to apply the best material at his disposal in searching out and bringing to justice the real offenders in these areas.

19. *Miscellaneous.*—The year was marked by the introduction of uniforms for the officers of the Bengal Excise Department. All officers not above the grade of Sub-Deputy Superintendents in charge of Distilleries are required to procure uniforms at their own expense, those for menial servants being provided at the cost of Government.

20. The thanks of Government are due to Mr K. G. Gupta for his successful administration of the Department and to the Board for their supervision during the year. The Excise Commissioner expresses his obligations to the District Officers generally, and to some of them in particular, including the Hon'ble Rai Durgagati Banerjee Bahadur, C.I.E., Superintendent of Excise Revenue, Calcutta. The names of the officers specially mentioned by the Board will be communicated to the Appointment Department of this Government.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

E. N. BAKER,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 6th November 1899.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Aman* paddy and sugarcane doing well. Sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	15	} per rupee.
Kalna	13½	
Katwa	16	
Raniganj	13¼	

Birbhum.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Aus* being harvested and *rabi* sown. *Aman* promising. Price of common rice at Sadar and Rampur Hat 15 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Vishnupur .37. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of *aman* paddy commenced. *Rabi* sowing still continues. Standing crops doing well. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice at Bankura 16 seers and at Vishnupur 15 seers per rupee.

Midnapore.—No rain. Cold weather set in. Prospects of winter rice good. *Rabi* crops are being sown. Cattle-disease reported from some places in the Sadar subdivision. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. ch.	
Sadar	15 0	} per rupee.
Contai	18 0	
Tamluk	14 3½	

Hooghly.—No rain. Prospects of *aman* and *rabi* crops good. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Condition of *aman* good. Sowing of *rabi* continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Sowing of *rabi* has commenced. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. ch.	
Sadar	12 0	} per rupee.
Barasat	14 8	
Basirhat	13 14	
Diamond Harbour	12 13	

Nadia.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Sowing of *rabi* continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice stationary.

Murshidabad.—Rain at Jangipur .24. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* favourable. *Kalmi* and mulberry doing well. Sowing of *rabi* continues. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16	} per rupee.
Jangipur	14	
Kandi	18	

Jessore.—No rain. Sowing of *rabi* going on. Prospects of *aman* good. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Jessore	16	} per rupee.
Jhenida	18	
Magura	17	
Narail	16	
Bangaon	17	

Khulna.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Aman* paddy doing well. Lands are being prepared for the *rabi* crops. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16½	} per rupee.
Bagerhat	16	
Satkhira	14	

Rajshahi.—Rainfall at Natol .02. Prospects of crops good. Ploughing and sowing of *rabi* crops in progress. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water available. Common rice sells at 17½ seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Average rainfall .02. Weather cool. Standing crops good. Cow-pox reported from Parbatipur. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice 17 seers in Dinajpur town and 16 seers at Thakurgaon.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall at Sadar .67, Alipur Duars .79. Weather seasonable. *Haimanti* paddy doing well. Preparation of land for tobacco still continues. Common rice sells at 14 seers 13 chitaks per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Darjeeling.—Rainfall at Darjeeling .63, Siliguri 2.12. Weather seasonable. *Hills*—*Haimanti* paddy, *bars marua*, *kalai*, *phaphar*, *tori*, wheat and barley progressing. *Terai*—*Haimanti* paddy, *kalai*, potatoes and mustard progressing. Coarse rice sells as follows:—

					Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	...	9	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	...	...	16	

Bhutta sells at Darjeeling 20 seers and at Kalimpong 32 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—Rainfall at Sadar .04, Nilphamari .20. Lands are being prepared for *rabi* crops. Prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 16 seers 9 chitaks per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease prevailing in Nilphamari.

Bogra.—Rainfall at Sadar .05 and at Naukhila .24. Prospects of crops good. Cultivation of *rabi* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 17½ seers per rupee.

Pabna.—Rainfall at Sirajganj .09. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Price of common rice 14 seers 11 chitaks per rupee.

Dacca.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Manikganj .04, Munshiganj .52, Narayanganj .06. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Tangail 1.67, Netrokona 1.70, Kishorganj 1.52, Jamalpur 1.16. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Health of cattle good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 17 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Goalundo 1.20, Madaripur 2.80. Weather seasonable. State and prospects of crops good. Common rice sells at 14½ seers per rupee.

Backergunge.—Rainfall at Sadar nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops fair. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Tippera.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Chandpur .43, Brahmanbaria .67. Weather cool and seasonable. *Aman* paddy in flower and doing well. Common rice 17 seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—Rainfall nil. Prospects of crops good. Lands are being ploughed for *rabi* crops. Veterinary assistant treating cattle-disease at Chagalnaya. Cattle-disease is also reported from Senbag. Fodder and water good. Price of common rice stationary.

Chittagong.—Rainfall at Sadar 2.27, Cox's Bazar 13.01. Prospects of *aman* crop favourable. Water and fodder sufficient. Common rice 15 seers per rupee.

Patna.—Rainfall nil. Prospects of paddy crop fair. Sowing of *rabi* continues. About two or three annas of the opium sowing have been completed and some of them are germinating satisfactorily. Condition of cattle good. Fodder and water for cattle sufficient. Common rice in Patna sells at 16 seers per rupee.

Gaya.—Rainfall nil. Early winter paddy being harvested. *Rabi* sowing continues. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall at Sadar .03. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Paddy affected for want of timely rain in Arrah. Ninety-nine cases of cattle-disease in Sasaram. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at Sadar at 12 seers per rupee.

Saran.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Siwan .62, Gopalganj .30. Weather seasonable. Recent rain has benefited paddy and *rabi*, and has made prices easier. Average price of common rice 13 seers 1 chitak and of *makai* 13 seers 11 chitaks per rupee.

Champaran.—No rain. Prospects continue fair. *Rabi* sowings in full swing. Poppy sowings commenced. Price of common rice 14½ seers and of maize 16½ seers per rupee.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall nil. Prospects good. Common rice 12 seers, wheat 12 seers, *baaj* 14 seers, and *marua* 18 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—No rain. Weather temperate. Sowing going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	11	0	} per rupee.
Samastipur	14	0	
Madhubani	13	13	

Monghyr.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Jamui 60. Prospects of standing crops fair. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Monghyr	11	3	} per rupee.
Jamui	14	0	

Bhagalpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects favourable. *Rabi* sowing continues. Sporadic cattle-disease prevails in the three subdivisions. Prices stationary.

Purnea.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Kishanganj nil. Araria 03. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aghani* rice good. Lands are being ploughed for *rabi* crops. Cattle-disease reported from Raniganj, Kasba, and Araria. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.		
Sadar	16	} per rupee.	
Kishanganj	17		
Araria	19		

Malda.—Rainfall only at Gajol 6. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* crops continues. Winter rice doing well. Cattle-pox reported from Gomastapur. Fodder and water sufficient. Coarse rice sells at 16 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—Average rainfall 91. Crops doing well. Harvesting begun on high lands. Cattle-disease reported from Rajmahal and Dumka. Average price of common rice 13 seers 5 chitaks and of Indian-corn 18 seers 10 chitaks per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Cuttack.—Rainfall at Sadar nil, Jajpur 07, Kendrapara nil, Banki nil. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* maturing. *Guru sarad* in ear. Sugarcane, *rabi*, and turmeric thriving. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Cuttack	14	7	} per rupee.
Jajpur	17	1	
Kendrapara	19	11	
Banki	13	12	

Balasore.—Rainfall at Sadar nil. *Sarad* in ear. *Aru* is being harvested. Sugarcane thriving well. Prospects of crops good. Sowing of *rabi* crops continues. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 16 seers per rupee at Balasore. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—Weather cold at night, but hot in the day. Rainfall at Angul 05 and at Baispara 10. Paddy crop in ear. *Rabi* sowing in progress. Sugarcane doing well. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease continues in the Khondmals. Common rice sells at 16 and 12 seers per rupee at Angul and Khondmals respectively.

Puri.—Rainfall at Sadar 02, Khurda 68. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* being harvested. *Kutthi* growing. *Biri* being sown. Sugarcane being pressed. Other miscellaneous crops doing well. Cattle-disease reported from certain quarters. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	ch.	
Sadar	13	0	} per rupee.
Khurda	14	7	
Interior of district	14	0	

Test-works opened in certain parts of Khurda, where distress is apprehended.

Hazaribagh.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Paddy seriously damaged by drought. Common rice sells at 13 seers per rupee.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 8, 1899. 1893

Ranchi.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of winter rice in progress; outturn very poor. Continued drought prevented the preparation of land for *rabi* crops. Rice sells at Ranchi 10 seers per rupee and in the interior 14 seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient.

Palamau.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* sowing going on in places where rain fell. More rain wanted for *rabi* cultivation. Prices at Sadar are—Common rice 10 seers 11 chitaks, *makai* 13½ seers, *gram* 14 seers 1 chitak, *marua* 15 seers 3 chitaks, and wheat 11½ seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease reported from a few villages.

Manbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Bhadoi* crops fair. Winter rice an average crop. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Purulia, Topohanchi, and Tundi. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 13½ seers and at Gobindpur 12 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singhbhum.—Rain 10. More rain wanted for *rabi* crops. Common rice sells at 15 seers 14 chitaks per rupee.

General Summary.—There were scattered showers in various districts in the week, which were specially useful in Angul, Puri, Singhbhum, and Saran for the sowing of the *rabi* crop. The reports from all divisions except Patna, Orissa, and Chota Nagpur show that the winter rice will be an excellent crop, and that the less important *rabi* is being sown under favourable conditions. All the districts of the Patna Division have good, or middling crops, except Shahabad, and though test-works have been opened in the Khurda Division of Puri, yet prospects are now much brighter there and in Angul. Only in Chota Nagpur is severe scarcity apprehended, the untimely cessation of the rains having ruined the rice crop and endangering the sowing of the *rabi*. In Manbhum, however, an average crop of rice is expected. The price of common rice is lower in Puri, Hazaribagh, and a few other districts; elsewhere it is stationary. Cattle are generally in good condition, and fodder is everywhere plentiful.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 7th November 1899.

STOCKS OF RICE IN AND AROUND CALCUTTA.

No.

Statistics.—The following is published for general information.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Statement showing the Stocks of Rice in and around Calcutta during November 1899.

NAMES OF MARTS.	STOCK IN HAND AS COMPILED ON—											
	1st week of Nov. 1898.	1st week of Dec. 1898.	1st week of Jan. 1899.	1st week of Feb. 1899.	1st week of March 1899.	1st week of April 1899.	1st week of May 1899.	1st week of June 1899.	1st week of July 1899.	1st week of August 1899.	1st week of Oct. 1899.	1st week of Nov. 1899.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Ballaghata	1,77,000	1,86,000	2,12,000	2,41,000	6,30,000	6,85,000	7,18,000	8,11,000	7,73,000	4,71,000	2,59,000	2,59,000
Uttaranga	64,000	48,000	46,500	55,500	75,000	76,500	77,500	77,000	70,000	53,000	46,500	36,500
Onitpur, Golabara, Kumar- tooly, Hatibola, and Oulpa Ghat.	2,97,500	2,69,000	2,83,500	2,98,000	3,34,000	2,48,500	2,33,500	2,16,500	2,00,500	2,97,000	2,68,000	2,34,500
Pathuraghat, Posta, and Joribagan.	2,500	2,000	1,900	2,600	3,300	4,000	2,800	2,700	3,000	2,900	3,000	2,000
Tallypang, Chetia, Kidderpore, and Munibagan.	1,09,900	90,900	1,32,000	1,38,700	1,76,000	1,90,000	1,55,500	1,59,000	1,73,000	1,74,300	1,63,000	1,47,500
Minor bazar (1)	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000	2,40,000
Other retail shops (1)	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000
Bamkrishnapur	69,500	69,500	95,700	1,09,000	1,37,500	1,42,000	1,33,000	1,34,500	98,500	87,000	1,33,500	1,07,000
Baidyabati, Nawabganj, Bha- drowar, and Chandernagore.	17,398	19,595	52,057	14,255	18,776	1,257	1,594	1,573	869	1,151	2,152	11,400
Total	12,41,798	11,63,993	13,14,257	13,46,066	18,32,376	19,15,857	19,47,604	20,33,572	19,06,869	15,76,351	12,32,694	12,63,369
On Railway premises on both sides of the river.	2,100	19,338	22,394	16,348	25,033	19,294	6,438	4,688	838	1,508	4,325	16,644
On boats not yet unloaded—												
By Port Commissioners'	26,856	53,350	37,842	63,146	47,052	43,860	31,993	28,180	20,378	33,147	51,534	39,990
returns.	(1st to 3rd Nov. 1898.)	(1st to 3rd Dec. 1898.)	(2nd to 4th Jan. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Feb. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd March 1899.)	(1st to 3rd April 1899.)	(1st to 3rd May 1899.)	(1st to 3rd June 1899.)	(1st to 3rd July 1899.)	(1st to 3rd August 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Oct. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Nov. 1899.)
By Canal returns	45,369	59,191	61,553	1,02,388	98,706	41,311	30,944	29,007	23,356	33,400	30,775	64,278
	(1st to 3rd Nov. 1898.)	(1st to 3rd Dec. 1898.)	(2nd to 4th Jan. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Feb. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd March 1899.)	(1st to 3rd April 1899.)	(1st to 3rd May 1899.)	(1st to 3rd June 1899.)	(1st to 3rd July 1899.)	(1st to 3rd August 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Oct. 1899.)	(1st to 3rd Nov. 1899.)
Grand total of Stocks	12,83,130	13,44,375	14,36,061	15,37,940	19,66,126	20,30,545	20,09,259	20,86,147	19,51,659	16,43,471	13,85,607	13,11,769

* This mart is in the Howrah district, and the figures have been obtained by local enquiry.

† Figures furnished by the Collector of Hooghly.

‡ Ditto by the Railway authorities.

(1) Estimated as a constant quantity.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 7th November 1899.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

IMPORTS INTO CALCUTTA.

The following Statement shows the Quantities of the Principal Staples of Traffic imported into Calcutta from the Interior by Rail, Road, River (Country-boat and Steamer) and Canal during the month of July 1899.

Whence imported.	FOOD-GRAINS.										FIBRE PRODUCTS.		OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	Coal and coke.	Indigo.	SUGAR.		TOBACCO.
	Rice and paddy.		Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains.	Total.	Jute, raw.	Gunny-bags.	Linsed.	Mustard seed.												
	Rice.	Paddy.*																				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
BENGAL.																						
Burdwan	71,148	28,385	Mda.	2,723	5,078	9	98,671	18	14,898	2,380	596	Mda.	596	Mda.	25,000,000	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Birbhum	51,457	889	Mda.	341	382	130	52,743	176	4,270	1,348	354	Mda.	1,348	Mda.	5,033	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Midnapore	1,03,457	6,840	Mda.	16,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Hugli	71,545	19,306	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
24-Parganas	8,09,288	41,310	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Nadia	24,176	415	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Murshidabad	22,593	108	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Jessore	3,775	2,650	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Khulna	4,763	34,480	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Rajshahi	3,256	7,149	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Dinajpur	2,140	7,149	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Jalpaiguri	8,860	12	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Darjeeling	12	12	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Rangpur	3,950	8,950	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Bohag	13	13	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Barua	3,379	3,379	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Dacca	12	12	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Mymensingh	44,218	300	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Faridpur	88,958	6,445	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Backergunge	12,800	12,800	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Tippore	2	2	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Noakhali	7,33,738	1,26,104	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Chittagong			Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Total of Bengal	7,33,738	1,26,104	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
BIHAR.																						
Patna	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Gaya	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Bahabad	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Shahabad	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Samat	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Champan	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Muzaffarpur	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Darbhanga	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Monohar	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Bhagalpur	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Purnea	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Madh	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
South Parganas	5	5	Mda.	20,860	29,797	11,191	61,869	1,50,401	1,50,401	15,199	15,199	Mda.	15,199	Mda.	25,25,901	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		
Total of Bihar	1,005	1,005	Mda.	18,623	17,918	160	1,08,354	2,007	4,344	425	163	Mda.	425	Mda.	1,516	Mda.	185	Mda.	185	Mda.		

One maund of paddy is equivalent to 35 seers of rice.

† Exclusive of bags obtained by...

* One mound of paddy is equivalent to 35 seers of rice. † Exclusive of bags obtained by local manufacture.

Whence imported.	FOOD-GRAINS.										OILSEEDS.		Tea, Indian.	Cotton, raw.	Silk, raw.	Coal and coke.	Indigo.	SUGAR.		TOBACCO.	
	Rice and paddy.			Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Other food-grains.	Total.	Jute, raw.	Gunny-bags. †	Lined.	Mustard seed.	Refined.						Unrefined.	Unmanufactured.	Manufactured.	
	Rice.	Paddy.*	Total (in rice).																		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Orissa.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Bahore	3,193	600	3,570				3,570														
Total of Orissa	3,193	600	3,570				3,570														
CHOTA NAGPUR.																					
Hamarbath									175	167		130	3		1,16,165						
Manbhurn									140						10,09,861						
Singbhum																					
Total of Chota Nagpur.									315	167		130	3		20,16,826						
Grand Total of supplies from the Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.	7,57,073	1,26,704	8,15,657	2,61,944	4,79,516	38,370	16,13,457	5,91,055	1,978,890	5,42,618	1,50,790	55,195	6,874	2,583	45,45,757	13	4,613	50,317	68,133		4,503
OTHER PROVINCES.																					
Assam	4,035		4,035	618	4,577		10,030	694	280	13,836	1,11,654	1,06,898	40								
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	333		333	5,09,644	51,092		6,30,981		5,390	2,25,690	92,337	536	2,439								
Punjab	41		41	606	676		1,413		315		2,785	376	1,847								
Central Provinces	2,403		2,403	873	18		3,493		348	1,708	407		1,615								
Baluchistan and Central India.									245	2,750	2,597										
Bihar													8,235								
Bombay																					
Madras																					
Grand Total of Imports in July	7,44,703	1,26,704	8,53,345	8,10,934	5,36,464	38,368	22,51,604	5,91,749	1,998,016	7,35,567	2,60,470	1,61,935	22,221	2,583	45,45,727	15	4,613	50,073	68,159		4,555
	8,00,103	80,308	8,61,978	4,33,734	4,14,077	53,397	17,64,766	4,80,916	841,686	12,30,104	3,32,654	1,45,845	63,259	2,414	46,30,966	26	77,403	55,179	60,376		4,098

* One maund of paddy is equivalent to 35 seers of rice.

† Exclusive of bags obtained by local manufacture.

IV.

EXPORTS FROM CALCUTTA.

The following Statement shows the Values and Quantities of the Principal Staples of Traffic exported Inland from Calcutta by Rail, Road, River (Country-boat and Steamer) and Canal during the month of July 1899 :—

Whither exported.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kerosine oil.	Gunny-bags.	Whither exported.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kerosine oil.	Gunny-bags.
	European.	Indian.	European.	Indian.					European.	Indian.	European.	Indian.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BENGALE.															
Aurdwan ...	1,23,305	1,164	332	1,106	18,890	6,792	98,775	ORISSA.	Ra.	Ra.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.
Budhuan ...	86,091	2,856	32	643	9,267	2,245	73,325								
Midnapore ...	1,83,497	6,292	1,093	185	31,839	2,634	71,491	Balasore ...	644	3,258	...	201	1,000	171	
Hoochly ...	1,04,932	6,000	154	47	1,016	4,351	76,150	Total of Orissa ...	644	3,258	...	201	1,000	171	
24-Paraganas ...	2,41,513	8,735	890	...	11,472	50,421	23,040	CHOTA NAGPUR.							
Nadia ...	1,08,774	...	2,331	228	28,472	7,030	53,044	Hazaribagh ...	4,697	66	3	144	4,433	628	
Murshidabad ...	86,841	782	343	...	27,045	1,423	29,016	Manbhum ...	62,272	1,462	6	1,230	11,450	1,731	
Jessore ...	4,219	...	103	5	12,964	2,140	4,610	Singbhum ...	11,408	338	19	26	4,632	212	
Kulna ...	...	...	...	...	3,941	1,976	...	Total of Chota Nagpur ...	78,377	1,768	27	1,409	20,616	2,873	
Raisahli ...	59,432	...	167	161	12,893	1,731	8,575	Grand Total of Supplies into the Provinces under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal ...							
Dinajpur ...	38,733	...	28	205	9,059	2,075	7,575		28,91,836	36,181	12,053	13,040	5,57,300	2,19,736	98,611
Jalpaiguri ...	50,294	...	6	197	9,692	4,020	7,770	OTHER PROVINCES.							
Darjeeling ...	24,058	...	39	176	5,753	2,443	895	Assam ...	2,93,421	476	1,094	707	35,407	23,304	27,111
Rangpur ...	1,64,608	...	153	498	15,581	2,250	16,485	North-Western Provinces and Oudh ...	11,00,516	3,004	2,238	562	19,607	41,744	31,111
Bogra ...	97,612	...	...	119	6,253	354	17,325	Punjab ...	3,43,183	274	322	5	13	2,375	615
Pabna ...	1,03,203	...	...	471	24,313	5,754	16,725	Central Provinces ...	22,247	4,790	154	50	...	6,718	711
Cooch Behar ...	22,080	102	...	54	1,903	...	140	Rajputana and Central India ...	30,818	808	160	...	...	1,925	11
Dacca ...	1,69,269	...	2,592	34	22,994	4,454	8,155	Berar ...	3,401	640	...	...	...	...	14
Mymensingh ...	1,31,908	...	157	276	4,579	3,022	7,070	Nizams Territory ...	414	...	...	...	...	...	...
Faridpur ...	52,128	...	970	139	16,924	6,388	46,930	Bombay ...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...
Buckergunge ...	...	...	125	...	25,500	15,490	1,565	Madras ...	139	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tippera ...	68,295	1,320	704	...	9,378	1,076	8,200	Grand Total of Exports in 1899 ...	44,80,590	40,213	10,030	14,364	6,12,410	2,05,804	1,25,111
Nonkhali ...	1,376	850	103	...	13,460	850	...	Exports in 1898 ...	67,71,371	35,786	30,168	48,154	6,64,550	3,22,498	19,833
Chittagong ...	12,170	...	84	...	...	4	...								
Total of Bengal ...	30,28,457	28,047	10,963	4,580	3,21,700	1,60,107	513,109								
BIHAR.															
Patna ...	40,064	304	584	1,124	43,840	10,628	137,760								
Gaya ...	23,594	...	14	524	11,412	802	23,310								
Munshabad ...	64,307	82	34	1,357	13,698	1,304	3,175								
Buxar ...	56,502	...	53	209	18,095	2,607	14,550								
Champanan ...	45,300	...	39	90	13,256	2,017	20,440								
Muzaffarpur ...	20,340	...	3	114	15,432	5,554	33,400								
Darbhanga ...	30,325	...	...	512	20,427	6,706	17,115								
Monchehr ...	28,792	850	12	1,100	10,444	5,508	73,374								
Risalgur ...	39,836	...	115	454	32,174	8,226	65,820								
Purnea ...	1,20,612	...	65	464	10,693	5,113	13,315								
Malda ...	59,830	...	69	300	5,113	1,703	8,395								
Banshal Parganas ...	20,301	1,972	21	845	20,433	4,836	56,280								
Total of Bihar ...	5,84,438	3,108	1,033	7,041	2,14,151	66,887	423,080								

V.

The Sea-borne Trade of Calcutta in these Staples during the month of July 1899 was as follows :—

IMPORTED INTO CALCUTTA.	COTTON PIECE-GOODS.		COTTON TWIST.		Salt.	Kerosine oil.	Gunny-bags.
	European.	Indian.	European.	Indian.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
From Foreign Ports—	Ra.*	Ra.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.
United Kingdom ...	1,25,05,044	...	8,437	...	4,54,475	10,006	...
Other foreign ports ...	50,030	...	1,012	...	3,70,954	3,72,810	...
Total of Foreign Trade ...	1,25,55,074	...	9,449	...	8,25,429	3,83,806	...
From Indian Ports—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay ...	10,755	1,164	...	16,915	58,033	114	...
Madras ...	5,302	20,633	...	...	599	...	...
Burma ...	21,657	...	...	4	...	39,545	...
Other Indian ports ...	2,448	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total of Interport Trade ...	40,215	30,796	...	15,919	58,637	39,630	...
Grand Total of Imports in 1899 ...	1,25,96,189	30,796	9,449	15,919	8,84,066	4,23,167	...
July ...	83,54,656	1,71,321	9,807	21,114	7,13,792	6,96,195	...

* As per tariff declaration value.

VI.

The following Statement shows the several Routes followed by the Trade in the above Principal Staples of Traffic exported from Calcutta during the month of July 1899 :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
SPECIFICATION OF ROUTES—	Ra.	Ra.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	No.
By country boats ...	1,53,500	6,000	848	...	1,56,083	31,929	...
By river steamers ...	6,06,333	...	4,595	707	1,25,814	50,330	...
By East Indian Railway ...	22,73,128	10,234	3,747	10,503	2,38,955	1,00,008	1,41,111
By Eastern Bengal State Railway ...	10,65,620	...	5,603	2,818	84,304	93,212	...
By Assam-Bengal Railway ...	56,197	2,652	587	...	2,178	107	...
By Bengal-Nagpur Railway ...	5,637	9,692	...	336	693	201	...
By road ...	3,76,322	8,735	585	...	6,293	7,239	...
Grand Total of Imports in July ...	44,85,536	40,213	16,030	14,564	6,12,410	2,05,804	1,25,111
1898 ...	67,71,371	35,786	30,168	48,154	6,64,550	3,22,498	19,833

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT,
The 4th November 1899.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (*RETAIL*) OF FOOD-GRAINS AND SALT

IN THE

HEAD-QUARTERS STATION BAZARS OF THE DISTRICTS OF BENGAL
DURING THE FORTNIGHT ENDING THE 31st OCTOBER 1899.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head.

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN														
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU. (Sorghum Vulgare.)		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
	BENGAL.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
Burdwan Division.	1 Burdwan	12 0	12 0	14 8	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	9 11	13 0	16 0	13 8	...	...	...
	2 Birbhum	13 0	13 0	12 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 12	12 0	14 4	15 0	15 0	...	...	...
	3 Bankura	10 0	10 0	13 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 8	15 0	15 0	17 8	...	...	...
	4 Midnapore	10 0	10 0	10 10	...	...	...	11 4	12 0	10 10	17 0	15 0	{ Old 13 0 new 16 0 }	...	...	...
	5 Hooghly	10 0	12 0	12 0	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	7 8	11 8	12 0	10 8	...	...	...
	6 Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 12	10 10	9 0	12 12	13 0	12 0	...	...	...
Presidency Division.	7 24-Parganas	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 8	8 10	7 0	12 0	12 10	12 0	...	...	...
	8 Calcutta	10 10	9 6	12 12	12 4	12 4	16 0	7 9	8 0	7 9	10 10	11 6	11 4	12 4	11 6	16 12
	9 Nadia	13 5	13 5	12 13	22 14	...	14 9	6 10	6 10	6 2	12 10	12 13	13 10	...	...	...
	10 Murshidabad	Jamali. 14 0 Gangajali. 12 0	14 0 12 0	16 8 16 0	20 0	18 0	...	12 8	12 8	10 8	16 0	15 0	16 0	...	...	...
	11 Jessore	9 0	9 0	11 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	10 8	10 8	11 0	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...
	12 Khulna	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	13 0	15 0	16 0	18 8	...	...	...
Rajshahi Division.	13 Rajshahi	16 8	15 9	16 8	24 0	22 8	22 12	10 8	12 0	10 4	17 4	14 4	15 0	...	...	...
	14 Dinajpur	9-9-6t.	12 0	12 0	13 5	16 0	16 0	9-9-3t.	12 0	12 0	18 0	16 12	17 0	...	...	...
	15 Jalpaiguri	9 0	9 0	12 0	...	...	...	5 0	5 0	5 8	13 0	13 0	12 8	...	...	...
	16 Darjeeling	7 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	5 0	5 4	5 4	9 8	10 0	13 0	...	...	...
	17 Rangpur	11 0	12 0	11 0	...	...	...	8 0	7 0	7 8	14 0	13 0	13 0	...	...	...
	18 Bogra	9 0	9 15	15 0	...	...	...	12 0	14 4	9 12	18 0	18 0	13 8	...	...	...
Dacca Division.	19 Pabna	16 8	16 8	14 4	35 0	35 0	22 8	7 0	7 0	6 0	17 4	17 4	17 10	...	...	...
	20 Dacca	10 0	10 12	13 0	32 0	30 0	26 0	10 0	10 4	11 8	18 0	18 0	18 8	...	...	...
	21 Mymensingh	10 0	13 8	13 8	...	...	...	14 0	16 0	10 0	16 0	20 0	13 0	...	...	...
	22 Faridpur	15 0	15 0	17 0	28 0	28 0	18 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	16 0	16 0	20 0	...	...	...
	23 Backergunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	13 0	12 0	12 12 16 0	12 12 16 0	13 8 20 0	...	...	...

- A. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kalna 10 seers 10 chittacks; Katwa 10 seers 15 chittacks; Raniganj 10½ seers.
- B. At Rampur Hat the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
- C. At Vishnupur the retail price of salt is 9½ seers per rupee.
- D. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Contai 10 seers; Tamluk 10½ seers; Ghatal 11½ seers.
- E. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Serampore 10½ seers; Jahanabad 10 seers 9 chittacks.
- F. At Ulubaria the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10½ chittacks per rupee.
- G. In the marts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Ohetia 11 seers; Barasat 11½ seers; Baduria 10 seers 10 chittacks; Nagrahat 10 seers 10½ chittacks.
- H. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kushtia (Bahadurkhal) 10½ seers (panga); Chuadanga 11 seers (panga); Meherpur 10 seers (karkatch); Ranagi at 10½ seers (crushed).
- I. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Lalbagh 11 seers; Jangipur 10 seers; Kandi return not received.
- J. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Jhenida 10 seers; Magura 9½ seers; Narail 10 seers; Bangson 10 seers 10 chittacks.

ERS OF 80 TOLANS.

[illegible]

KANGNI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica</i> .)						GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arvense</i> .)					
Present return.			Next preceding re- turn.			Present return.			Next preceding re- turn.		
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...	13	0	16	8	16	1
...	13	8	15	0	17	5
...	12	8	12	8	14	0
...	12	0	11	0	13	0
...	11	0	12	0	12	0
...	16	0	16	0	16	0
...	13	0	12	11	16	0
10	0	10	0	10	0	11	6	11	6	14	0
...	16	0	14	8	15	1
...	18	0	14	8	20	0
...	13	4	13	4	19	0
...	10	0	20	0	13	0
...	16	8	15	0	22	1
...	12	0	14	8	12	0
...	13	0	13	8	16	0
...	8	0	8	0	11	0
...	10	0	10	0	14	0
...	15	0	15	0	15	0
...	16	0	17	4	16	0
...	11	8	12	0	21	0
...	9	0	20	0	8	0
...	14	0	14	0	15	0
...	9	8	9	8	14	0

quarters Station Basars of the Districts of Bengal on the 31st October 1890.

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Name.
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zea mays.)			ARHAR OR TUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.							
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.					
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	BENGAL.				
...	10 0	11 0	...	A	11 8	11 8	11 7	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	Burdwan.	1		
...	9 0	12 0	...	B	10 8	10 8	10 8	3 10 6	3 10 6	3 10 6	Birbhum.	2		
...	10 0	10 0	12 0	C	10 0	10 0	10 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Bankura.	3		
...	9 0	10 0	...	D	11 4	10 10	10 8	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 6	Midnapore.	4		
...	8 0	10 0	7 0	E	10 8	10 8	10 0	3 12 0	3 8 0	3 12 0	Hooghly.	5		
...	11 8	11 8	11 4	F	10 8	10 8	10 2	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	Howrah.	6		
...	9 8	10 6	...	G	10 12	10 12	10 10	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 7 0	24-Parganas.	7		
11 6	11 6	20 0	9 0	9 0	11 4	H	11 0	11 0	10 0	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 6 0	Calcutta.	8		
...	10 10	9 6	...	I	12 1	12 1	11 3	3 5 0	3 5 0	3 9 0	Nadia.	9		
...	11 0	12 0	...	J	11 0	11 0	11 0	3 3 0	3 8 0	3 10 0	Murshidab. d.	10		
...	8 0	10 0	K	9 2	11 0	9 2	3 12 0	3 10 0	3 14 0	Jessore.	11		
...	10 0	11 0	11 0	L	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Khulna.	12		
...	17 4	16 8	21 0	M	9 12	9 12	10 3	3 13 4	3 13 4	3 15 0	Rajshahi.	13		
...	6 0	9-9-81.	...	N	10 0	10 0	10 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 12 0	Dinajpur.	14		
...	9 0	10 0	12 0	O	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 11 0	Jaipaliguri.	15		
17 0	20 0	26 0	6 8	6 8	8 0	P	6 8	7 8	8 0	5 12 0	5 4 0	5 0 0	Darjeeling.	16		
18 0	18 0	18 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	Q	7 0	7 8	8 0	5 10 0	5 4 0	5 0 0	Rangpur.	17		
...	No sale.	14 4	...	R	10 8	10 8	9 12	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 10 6	Bogra.	18		
...	9 12	9 12	12 8	S	9 12	9 12	9 12	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	Pabna.	19		
...	8 0	8 0	13 0	T	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 10 0	Dacca.	20		
...	8 0	10 8	10 0	U	10 0	10 0	9 8	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Mymensingh.	21		
...	7 0	7 0	...	V	10 0	10 0	10 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Faridpur.	22		
...	W	10 0	10 0	10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	Backergunge.	23		

- K. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Bagerhat 9 seers ; Satkhira 11½ seers.
 L. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Nator 10½ seers ; Naugeon 9 seers 10 chittacks.
 M. In the Alipur Duars the retail price of salt is 8 seers per rupee.
 N. Retail prices of salt at Kurseong 8 seers and at Siliguri 9 seers per rupee.
 O. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Kurigram 8 seers ; Gaibanda 10 seers.
 P. At Sirajganj the retail price of salt is 11½ seers per rupee.
 Q. In the parts in the interior of the district the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Madanganj 11 seers 6 chittacks ; Manikganj 9 seers ; Mirkanim 11 seers 6 chittacks.
 R. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Kishorganj 10 seers ; Jamalpur 10 seers ; Kagrari 8 seers ; Netrokona 9½ seers.
 S. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Goulundo 10 seers ; Madaripur 10½ seers.
 T. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are :—Pirojpur 8 seers ; Patuakhali 9 seers ; Bhola 9 seers.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains and Salt in the Head-quarters

Number		DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN														
			WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (Sorghum Vulgare).		
			Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
BENGAL—concluded.		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	
Calcutta Division.	24	Tippura	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	12 0	14 9	15 0	20 0	...	...	...
	25	Noakhali	...	...	...	...	...	...	11 0	11 0	11 0	16 0	16 8	20 0	...	...	...
	26	Chittagong	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 8	11 0	11 0	15 8	16 0	13 0	...	...	...
BIHAR.																	
Patna Division.	27	Patna	18 0	18 0	17 0	29 8	15 0	23 0	16 0	11 0	13 8	16 8	15 0	16 0	15 8	...	...
	28	Gaya	12 8	12 0	15 0	17 0	16 0	23 0	10 0	10 0	9 4	13 8	13 0	15 8	16 0	17 8	19 0
	29	Shahabad	12 8	12 8	15 8	16 0	17 0	24 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	14 0	13 8	15 8	...	...	...
	30	Saran	11 8	10 8	16 0	15 8	14 0	23 8	9 8	9 0	8 0	12 8	11 0	15 0	...	...	...
	31	Champana	12 8	12 8	13 8	16 8	16 8	21 0	7 0	7 0	6 8	14 8	14 0	15 0	...	...	...
	32	Munaffarpur	12 0	11 0	14 0	15 0	14 0	20 0	6 0	6 0	7 0	12 0	11 0	13 0	...	...	...
Bhagalpur Division.	33	Darbhanga	12 0	12 0	12 12	14 0	14 0	19 0	7 0	8 8	10 8	11 0	10 8	13 0	...	...	...
	34	Monghyr	12 10	11 8	18 0	17 11	15 12	18 0	10 8	9 8	8 0	11 14	10 8	14 0	...	...	...
	35	Bhagalpur	12 12	11 6	16 8	16 8	15 2	25 4	10 12	10 2	12 8	14 0	13 4	16 8	...	...	...
	36	Purnea (Kasba)	18 0	16 0	16 8	...	...	...	11 0	12 0	12 0	15 0	18 0	20 8	...	...	...
	37	Malda (English Bazar).	...	12 8	19 0	...	20 0	...	10 0	11 0	10 0	16 0	17 0	15 8	...	...	...
	38	Sonthal Parganas.	10 0	10 0	18 0	19 0	19 0	22 0	11 0	13 0	11 0	13 0	15 0	15 0	...	...	...
ORISSA.																	
Orissa Division.	39	Cuttack	9 14	9 8	11 8	...	...	...	10 8	9 8	9 8	14 7	12 8	15 2	...	...	...
	40	Balasore	18 0	18 0	18 0	11 0	12 0	10 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	16 0	16 0	...	...	...
	41	Puri	8 12	10 8	9 8	...	...	...	8 8	7 14	9 8	13 2	11 13	15 12	...	...	...
CHOTA NAGPUR.																	
Chota Nagpur Division.	42	Hazaribagh	10 12	9 0	14 0	16 0	14 0	18 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	11 8 New 13 0	11 0	15 0	...	...	...
	43	Ranchi	7 0 to 10 0	6 8 to 9 8	6 4 to 12 0	14 0	...	14 0	7 8	7 8	9 0	10 8	10 0	14 8	...	...	...
	44	Palamau	10 11	9 9	15 12	15 12	13 8	27 0	9 9	8 7	14 10	10 11	9 9	20 4	...	...	...
	45	Manbhum	10 0	10 0	18 0	16 0	18 0	...	10 0	10 4	11 4	13 8	14 0	15 0	...	...	...
	46	Singbhum	12 0	12 0	8 0	...	...	...	14 0	11 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	18 0	...	...	...

U. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Brahmanbaria 10 seers; Chandpur 9 seers.

V. At Foni Hat the retail price of salt is 9 seers per rupee.

W. At Cox's Bazar the retail price of salt is 8½ seers per rupee.

W1. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Barh 10½ seers; Bihar 10 seers; Dinapore 10 seers.

X. In the Aurangabad, Nawada, and Jahanabad subdivisions the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.

Y. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Sasaram 10½ seers; Buxar and Bhabua returns not received.

Z. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Siwan 11 seers 3 chittacks; Gopalganj (Mirganj) 12½ seers.

a. At Bettiah the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.

b. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Hajipur 10 seers; Sitamarhi 11 seers.

c. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Samastipur 11 seers; Madhubani 10½ seers.

CALCUTTA,

The 7th November 1899.

RAJRA OR CUMBU. <i>Pennisetum typhori-</i> <i>rum.</i>)	MARUA OR RAGI. (<i>Elousine Corodora.</i>)
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1892a

KANGNI OR KAKUN, ITALIAN MILLET. (<i>Setaria Italica</i> .)						GRAM, CHANA, CHHOLA, KADALAY OR SUNAGA. (<i>Cicer arctianum</i> .)					
Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.		Present return.		Next preceding re- turn.		Corresponding re- turn of last year.	
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...
...	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	...	...
...	10 0	9 0	12 0	...	...	...
18 0	15 0	20 0	17 0	15 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 0	18 0	14 0	16 0	15 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 8	15 0	21 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
14 0	12 0	16 0	15 0	12 0	20 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 8	14 0	17 8	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 0	12 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 0	13 8	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 4	16 12	21 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 0	12 0	19 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	16 0	18 0	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	12 0	13 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	15 12	13 13	15 12	Biri or kalai.					
...	{			Chhola.					
...				8 8	10 8	13 0	...	...	...
...				16 0	14 0	13 0	...	...	...
...				14 7	13 8	13 0	...	...	...
...	13 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	{			11 0	11 0	10 0	}		
...				12 0	12 0	12 0			
...	14 1	12 8	20 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	11 8	10 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	14 0	14 0	9 0	...	...	...	...	...	...

Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 31st October 1899—(concluded).

												WHOLESALE PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 SEERS.			DISTRICTS.	Numbr.	
INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE. (Zeamays.)			ARHAR OR TUR, CADJAN PEA. (Cajanus indicus.)			SALT.			SALT.								
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.						
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	BENGAL—concluded.					
...	...	...	...	...	...	U 10 0	10 0	8 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	Tippura.			24
...	...	...	...	...	...	V 9 0	9 0	9 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	Noakhali.			25
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	...	W 10 0	9 0	11 0	3 8 0	4 0 0	3 8 0	Chittagong.			26
												BIHAR.					
15 8	...	29 0	13 0	16 8	...	W1 11 0	11 0	11 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 8 0	Patna.			27		
15 0	...	23 12	11 0	10 0	...	X 10 0	10 0	10 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14 0	Gaya.			28		
14 0	15 0	22 0	12 0	13 0	...	Y 11 0	10 8	10 8	3 10 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	Shahabad.			29		
14 12	12 12	23 0	12 0	12 0	...	Z 11 0	10 12	10 8	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	Saran.			30		
16 8	16 0	23 0	10 8	10 0	...	a 10 8	10 8	9 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	4 6 0	Champanau.			31		
14 8	13 0	25 0	10 0	10 0	...	b 11 4	11 4	11 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 10 6	Muzaffarpur.			32		
15 0	15 0	24 0	13 0	13 0	...	c 10 8	10 8	10 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	Darbhanga.			33		
...	...	32 0	13 10	13 8	...	d 10 8	10 8	10 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	Monghyr.			34		
14 0	13 14	32 12	8 2	...	...	e 10 0	10 0	10 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 10 0	Bhagalpur.			35
...	...	...	11 0	9 0	...	f 10 8	10 8	10 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	Purnea (Kasba).			36
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	...	g 10 0	10 0	9 0	3 14 8	4 0 0	4 4 0	Maida (English Bazar).			37
17 0	29 0	38 0	16 0	17 0	...	h 10 0	10 0	9 8	3 12 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	Sonthal Pargana.			38		
												ORISSA.					
...	...	...	15 12	15 12	19 11	i 10 12	10 12	10 12	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	Cuttack.			39
...	...	...	8 0	8 0	10 8	j 11 8	11 8	11 8	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	Balasore.			40
...	...	...	10 7	9 8	9 8	k 13 8	13 0	13 2	2 15 0	3 0 0	2 15 0	Puri.			41
												CHOTA NAGPUR.					
15 0	30 0	20 0	9 0	...	...	l 9 0	9 0	8 0	4 8 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	Hasaribagh.			42
...	16 0	20 0	6 8	6 0	10 0	m 9 12	10 0	9 0	4 1 0	3 15 0	4 4 0	Ranchi.			43		
13 8	12 15	36 0	9 9	8 7	...	n 9 0	9 0	9 4	...	...	...	Palaman.			44
13 0	20 0	26 0	9 8	10 0	...	o 10 0	10 8	10 0	3 10 0	3 10 0	3 12 0	Manbhum.			45		
20 0	24 0	...	11 0	11 0	10 0	p 7 0	7 0	7 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	Singbhum.			46		

- d. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Bageswarai 10½ seers; Jamui 10½ seers.
e. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Banka 10 seers; Supaul 10 seers; Madhipura 9½ seers.
f. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Kishanganj 9 seers; Araria 9 seers.
g. At Ballia Nawabganj the retail price of salt is 10 seers per rupee.
h. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt per rupee are:—Doochur 10½ seers; Godda 10 seers; Jamtara 11 seers; Pakaur 11 seers; Rajmahal 11 seers.
i. In the subdivisions the retail prices of salt (panga) per rupee are:—Jajpur 9 seers; Kondrapara 9 seers.
j. At Bhadrak the retail price of salt is 10½ seers per rupee.
k. At Khurda the retail price of salt is 12 seers per rupee.
l. At Gobindpur the retail price of salt is 10 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.

Published for general information.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, &c.

Number.	MARKS.												
		RICE (BEST SORT).			COMMON RICE (note above).			WHEAT (<i>Triticum sativum</i>).			BARLEY (<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>).		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
1	Calcutta ...	5 0 0	4 12 0	5 4 0	3 8 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 12 0	4 0 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 4 0
2	Burdwan ...	3 10 0	3 4 0	4 2 0	3 0 0	2 8 0	2 15 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 12 0	...	...	...
3	Midnapore ...	3 8 0	3 4 0	3 12 0	2 5 0	2 10 0	Old. 2 12 0 New. 2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Pabna ...	6 0 0	6 10 0	6 10 0	2 5 0	2 5 0	2 4 0	2 6 0	2 6 6	2 12 6	...	...	...
5	Rangpur ...	4 12 0	5 0 0	5 8 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 8 0	3 0 0	3 8 0	...	...	...
6	Dacca ...	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 6 0	2 4 0	2 2 0	2 4 0	3 12 0	3 8 0	2 14 0	1 2 0	1 4 0	1 8 0
7	Chittagong ...	3 10 0	3 4 0	3 12 0	2 10 0	2 8 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Patna ...	2 10 0	3 9 0	2 12 0	2 5 0	2 10 0	2 3 6	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 5 0	2 0 0	2 10 0	1 10 0
9	Munsharpur ...	5 11 6	5 11 6	5 11 0	3 3 3	3 5 6	3 1 3	3 3 3	3 5 6	2 13 3	2 8 0	2 10 6	2 0 0
10	Bhagalpur ..	3 11 6	3 15 0	3 8 0	2 13 6	3 0 3	2 6 0	3 2 3	3 8 3	2 6 9	2 6 9	2 10 3	1 9 3
11	Cuttack ...	3 6 6	3 12 9	3 12 9	2 8 6	3 0 9	2 5 6	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 4 6	...	...	...
12	Ranchi ...	5 6 6	5 6 6	4 7 0	3 13 0	4 0 0	2 8 0 to 3 1 0	4 0 0 to 5 11 0	4 3 3 to 5 6 6	3 5 0 to 6 2 0	2 13 3	...	2 13 0

CALCUTTA,
The 7th November 1899.

JWAR OR CHOLUM (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i>).			BAJRA OR CUMBU (<i>Pennisetum typhoides</i>).			MARUA OR RAOI (<i>Eleusine corodana</i>).			GRAM, CHANA, CHOLA, KADALAY, OR SUNAGA (<i>Cicer arietinum</i>).		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
0 0	8 4 0	2 2 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	2 12 0	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 4 0	2 8 0
...	3 1 0	2 6 0	2 6 0
...
...	2 8 0	2 5 0	2 6 6
...	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 6 0
...	3 2 0	3 4 0	2 10 0
...	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 0 0
...	1 4 0	2 4 6	2 10 0	1 12 0
...	2 0 0	...	1 1 1	2 8 0	3 1 6	2 8 0
...	2 13 9	3 3 0	2 1 0
...	Biri or kalai.		
...	2 5 6	2 12 6	2 8 6
...	3 5 3	3 5 3	2 8 0
...	3 10 0	3 10 0	

RICES PER MAUND

INDIAN-CORN OR MAIZE (<i>Zea mays</i>).			ARHAR DAL OR THUR— CADJAN PEA (<i>Cajanus indicus</i>).			LINSEED.			MUSTARD AND RAPESEED.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.
3 4 0	3 4 0	1 12 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 4 0	5 8 0	6 8 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 0
...	...	...	4 0 0	3 8 0	3 2 0	...	...	...	4 3 0	3 14 0	3 14
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 2 0	4 14 0	3 11 0	Black mustard.		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 4 0 to 4 8 0	4 8 0	4 12
...	...	...	3 15 0	3 14 0	3 2 0	4 12 0	4 8 0	3 8 0	Rapeseed.		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 4 0	3 12 0	3 10
2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	...	...	...	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 14
...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	4 12 0	4 12 0	...	...	...	...	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 0
2 8 0	...	1 6 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	1 12 0	3 14 0	3 9 0	3 4 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 8
2 10 6	2 13 9	1 9 6	3 13 0	3 13 0	2 13 3	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 13 9	2 14 0	1 3 0	3 15 0	3 14 0	2 0 0	4 12 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 8 0	4 6 0	4 0
...	...	...	2 5 6	2 5 6	1 14 6	...	...	...	3 12 0	3 12 0	4 0
...	...	...	6 2 3	6 10 6	4 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	2 13 6	5 0 0	4 0 0 to 5 0 0	3 1 to 3 9

STANDARD SEERS.

TEL OR JINJILI SEED.			SUGAR (RAW).			COTTON, CLEANED.			JUTE.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
4 8 0	4 8 0	4 0 0	5 2 0	5 6 0	5 10 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	16 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 8 0
—	—	—	5 12 0	6 0 0	5 10 0	18 0 0	13 0 0	16 0 0	—	—	—
—	—	—	{ 4 8 0 to 5 0 0 }	{ 4 12 0 to 5 0 0 }	{ 6 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 to 20 0 0 }	{ 18 0 0 }	—	—	—
—	—	—	3 4 0	4 4 0	4 8 0	18 0 0	18 0 0	24 0 0	5 6 0	5 0 0	4 0 0
—	—	—	7 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	—	—	—	3 12 0	4 0 0	3 12 0
—	—	—	5 12 0	5 12 0	5 8 0	—	—	—	5 0 0	5 0 0	4 0 0
—	—	—	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	14 8 0	16 0 0	13 0 0	—	—	—
3 14 0	3 14 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 9 0	3 8 0	15 0 0	15 0	12 8 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	3 0 0
—	—	—	2 15 0	2 13 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	4 6 0	5 0 0	4 0 0	17 0 0	17 0 0	16 4 0	—	—	—
3 10 0	3 12 0	3 8 6	5 12 0	5 12 0	5 10 0	24 8 0	24 8 0	24 8 0	—	—	—
—	—	—	{ 5 0 0 to 5 11 0 }	{ 5 0 0 to 5 11 0 }	{ 5 0 0 }	20 0 0	20 0 0	20 0 0	—	—	—

GHI (CLARIFIED BUTTER).			TOBACCO LEAF.			HIDES (COW).			GRASS.		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
35 0 0	35 0 0	34 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 0 0	250 0 0	250 0 0	245 0 0	0 13 0	0 13 0	0 14 0
32 0 0	33 0 0	32 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38 0 0	32 8 0	34 8 0	Madhakhali.	...	...	Uncleaned hides, per piece—	...	...	...	...	...
to	to	to	7 8 0	6 12 0 to	6 4 0	{ 0 14 0, 0 14 0, 1 4 0 }	...	...	...	...	...
34 0 0	34 0 0	...	Pulta.	7 0 0	...	to 2 6 0 to 2 6 0 to 2 4 0	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	8 8 0	7 12 0 to	8 4 0	Cleaned hides, per piece—	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	8 0 0	...	{ 1 6 0, 1 6 0, 1 8 0 }	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	to 2 10 0 to 2 10 0 to 2 8 0	...	...	...	...	...
53 0 0	52 0 0	52 0 0	10 0 0	9 0 0	7 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 0 0	36 0 0	38 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	...	...	...	0 2 6	0 2 6	0 5 0
40 0 0	44 0 0	42 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	5 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0
45 0 0	45 0 0	40 0 0	12 0 0	12 8 0	10 0 0	per maund.	...	...	...	...	...
29 0 0	29 0 0	30 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	18 0 0	18 8 0	20 0 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	per maund.	...	...	...	...	...
30 7 6	30 7 6	29 1 6	10 0 0	10 0 0	10 0 0	...	...	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 4 0
38 8 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	5 8 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
29 0 0	31 0 0	34 8 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	4 8 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	0 8 11	0 8 11	0 8 11
27 13 0	26 10 8	29 8 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	8 0 0	per maund.	...	...	...	...	...
to	to	to	...	...	...	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	0 2 8	0 2 8	0 2 8
34 0 0	34 0 0	36 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	13 0 0	per piece.	...	...	...	...	...

in the undermentioned Marts of Bengal on the 31st October 1899.

STRAW.			JUAR STALKS.			PRICES PER MAUND OF 40 STANDARD SEERS.									MARTS.
						IRON.			FIREWOOD.			SALT.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
0 10 0	0 9 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	0 9 0	0 7 0	0 7 0	3 8 0	3 5 0	3 6 0	1. Calcutta.
0 3 0	0 5 4	0 6 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 8 0	3 4 0	3 4 0	3 8 0	2. Burdwan.
0 2 5	$\left\{ \begin{matrix} 0 2 4 \\ \text{to} \\ 0 7 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$	0 3 9	...	...	...	$\left\{ \begin{matrix} 4 0 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 4 8 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{matrix} 4 0 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 4 8 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{matrix} 3 0 0 \\ \text{to} \\ 5 0 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$	0 3 3	...	0 3 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3. Midnapore.
0 12 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	...	...	...	7 0 0	7 8 0	7 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	4. Pabna.
0 7 0	0 7 0	0 6 0	...	...	...	6 0 0	6 0 0	6 8 0	0 5 3	0 5 3	0 5 3	4 0 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	5. Rangpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 0 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 10 0	6. Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 4 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	3 8 0	4 0 0	3 8 0	7. Chittagong.
...	...	...	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	0 5 6	0 6 6	0 5 0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 0 0	8. Patna.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 11 6	5 11 6	8 0 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	3 10 6	9. Munaffarpur.
...	...	...	...	...	...	5 8 0	5 8 0	5 8 0	0 6 6	0 5 9	0 6 6	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 10 0	10. Bhagalpur.
0 8 6	0 9 6	0 11 3	...	...	...	4 8 0	4 8 0	4 8 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 5 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	11. Outtaek.
No fixed rate.			...	...	...	5 0 0	5 0 0	5 11 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 1 0	3 15 0	4 4 0	12. Ranchi.

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Abstract of the Results of Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory in the month of October 1899.

	Inches.	Date.	Hour.
The mean pressure of the month ...	29.889		
The average pressure of October from 24 years' registers ...	29.882		
The highest pressure in the month ...	30.037	21st	10th
The lowest pressure in the month ...	29.690	15th	16th
The range of pressure ...	0.347		
Hours.			
The total number of hours of bright sunshine during the month	200.4		
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine ...	359.1		
°			
The mean temperature of the month ...	79.4		
The average temperature of October from 24 years' registers ...	81.5		
The highest temperature in the month ...	92.1	4th	
The lowest temperature in the month ...	68.4	18th	
The range of temperature during the month ...	23.7		
The mean daily range of temperature ...	13.5		
The greatest range of temperature in one day ...	17.4	3rd	
Per cent.			
The mean humidity of the month ...	84		
The average humidity of October from 24 years' registers ...	79		
Inches.			
The mean vapour tension of the month ...	0.836		
The average vapour tension of October from 9 years' registers ...	0.854		
The mean cloud proportion of the month ...	8.47		
The average cloud proportion of October from 22 years' registers	3.83		
Ins.			
The total rainfall of the month ...	3.02		
The total rainfall indicated by a Beckley's self-registering rain-gauge (mouth of the gauge about 52 feet above the ground)	2.85		
The average fall of October from 48 years' registers ...	5.61		
The greatest fall in 24 hours ...	1.17	15th	
Days.			
The number of rainy days in the month ...	5		
The average number of rainy days in October from 24 years' registers ...	10		
The mean maximum equilibrium temperature of solar radiation during the month ...	137.8		
The mean difference of sun and air temperatures ...	60.7		
The greatest sun temperature ...	149.2	8th	
The greatest excess of sun over air temperature ...	60.3	17th	
The mean temperature of the nocturnal radiation thermometer on woollen cloth ...	69.2		
The mean depression of the nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum air temperature at 4 feet above the ground ...	4.6		
The greatest depression of the nocturnal radiation thermometer below the minimum air temperature ...	6.9	5th	
Miles.			
The mean movement of the wind per day ...	69.9		
The greatest movement of the wind in one day ...	234.0	16th	
The greatest movement of the wind in one hour ...	14.0	16th & 27th	10 to 11 A.M. & 1 to 2 P.M.

The number of hours with winds from each of the 8 points—

N. 205, N.E. 47, E. 42, S.E. 39, S. 26, S.W. 141, W. 37, N.W. 52, Calm 155.

The results of observations at the Alipore Observatory are not rigorously comparable with the registers of past years (at the Park Street Observatory). The barometer is about 3 feet higher at Alipore, and, other things being equal, reads therefore .003 lower. The diurnal range of temperature is also greater at Alipore, and the mean temperature apparently about 0.8 lower; and, finally, the thermometer which furnished the record of temperature at the Surveyor-General's Office during 20 years and upwards is found to read 0.6 higher than the Kew Standard thermometer, which is the standard of reference at the present Observatory.

G. W. KÜCHLER,

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 6th November 1899.

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India,
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 29th October to 4th November 1899.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%			Inches.	
Oct.	29th	129.6	2.7	29.866	77.6	83.5	11.2	72.3	74.1	0.799	72.5	85	N by W and N ...	42	Nil	Chiefly cloudy, a.
"	30th	143.0	9.0	.901	76.1	86.2	17.4	68.8	71.0	.691	68.2	79	N by W ...	60	"	Partially cloudy, a.
"	31st	139.3	7.1	.9.2	75.3	85.4	16.7	68.7	71.1	.707	68.9	82	N by W and variable.	48	"	Partially cloudy, a.
Nov.	1st	139.8	9.4	.923	74.5	86.2	19.2	67.0	70.1	.678	67.6	81	WNW and calm	46	"	Chiefly clear, a.
"	2nd	140.3	9.4	.979	73.5	85.9	20.7	65.2	68.2	.622	65.2	78	N and calm ...	54	"	Chiefly clear, a.
"	3rd	137.4	7.7	.952	72.7	82.3	17.7	64.6	67.1	.592	63.7	75	N by W and NNW	74	"	Chiefly clear, a.
"	4th	132.3	3.8	.966	74.6	83.5	17.3	66.2	69.8	.627	65.4	73	N by W and N ...	84	"	Chiefly clear, a.

The mean pressure of the seven days

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office

Inches.
29.927

The total number of hours of bright sunshine

The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine

29.906

Hours.

49.1

78.9

The mean temperature of the seven days

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office

74.9

The extreme variation of temperature

The maximum temperature

78.7

21.6

86.2

The highest velocity of the wind in one hour

Miles.

9

The mean relative humidity

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office

°/3

79

The total fall of rain from 29th October to 4th November 1899

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office

Inches.

Nil

The total fall from 1st January to 4th November 1899

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office

0.37

71.95

64.70

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h., 10h., 16h., and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the New Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

a, dew.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,
Calcutta, the 6th November 1899.G. W. KÜCHLER,
For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt of India,
and Director-General of Indian Observatories.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 4th of November 1899,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 4TH NOVEMBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 5TH NOVEMBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy ...	1,291	1,67,800	2,450	784	92,185	1,597
Jute ...	266	1,05,200	1,580	313	1,34,650	2,069
Firewood ...	82	56,050	845	64	51,650	777
Other articles ...	827	1,62,800	2,204	790	2,03,720	2,565
Total ...	2,396	4,91,350	7,079	1,951	4,92,205	7,008

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th October 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	(a)	Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	326,745	3,01,173 11 0	46,34,357 30	8,98,305 8 0	22,073 0 0	12,81,551 3 0	95,747	171,691	267,438
per mile of railway	.....	311 13 4	.....	525 2 7	12 14 6	740 3 5	.....	.....	.....
Previous 14 weeks of half-year	4,571,346	45,80,351 9 0	5,00,60,030 20	1,00,70,130 6 0	3,15,633 0 0	1,55,73,213 15 0	1,339,049	2,264,919	3,604,967
Total for 15 weeks	4,898,093	49,50,423 4 0	6,36,74,988 10	1,15,69,435 14 0	3,35,804 0 0	1,69,54,705 2 0	1,435,095	2,436,610	3,872,305
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	311,712	3,32,439 3 2	39,02,665	7,67,581 1 9	22,869 10 8	11,22,839 15 7	90,729	169,004	259,733
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	194 13 6	.....	450 2 9	13 6 7	658 8 10	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 15 weeks of previous year	4,557,407	45,80,935 2 5	5,97,25,382 30	1,07,34,319 10 7	3,08,052 8 5	1,55,73,300 5 5	1,390,057	2,345,247	3,741,304

(a) The increase is due to "Doorga Poojah" traffic chiefly from Howrah.

(b) The increase is in heavy upward despatch of food-grains from almost all the principal stations on B. C. D. and L. districts.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	292,569	3,20,987 13 0	43,14,638 30	8,92,233 0 0	22,192 0 0	13,41,413 6 0	96,612	169,544	266,156
per mile of railway	.....	191 2 7	.....	521 0 10	12 15 7	725 12 0	.....	.....	.....
Previous 14 weeks of half-year	4,899,093	49,50,423 4 0	6,36,74,988 10	1,15,69,435 14 0	3,35,804 0 0	1,69,54,705 2 0	1,435,095	2,436,610	3,872,305
Total for 15 weeks	5,190,601	52,77,413 1 0	6,79,99,047 0	1,24,60,609 7 0	3,58,090 0 0	1,80,90,178 8 0	1,592,397	2,606,154	4,198,461
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	314,025	3,34,339 9 11	41,39,900 0	8,96,361 5 10	19,878 5 0	11,60,560 4 9	91,045	155,340	246,384
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	196 1 3	.....	472 14 8	11 10 6	680 10 5	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 15 weeks of previous year	4,371,424	43,65,264 12 4	6,38,64,242 30	1,15,40,074 0 5	3,27,930 13 5	1,67,33,869 10 2	1,467,102	2,500,498	3,967,599

(a) There is a heavy increase in upward despatch of food-grains, chiefly from Loop districts, attended with a large falling off in traffic to and from Howrah, especially in piece-goods and seeds.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th October 1899 on 22·23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	M. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	21,958	4,5,153 11 0	13,512 20	458 6 0	9 0 0	5,021 1 0	920	92	1,012
per mile of railway	.....	231 13 4	.....	20 9 11	0 6 6	222 13 9	.....	.....	.....
Previous 14 weeks of half-year	237,866	59,764 9 0	1,99,641 0	6,315 9 0	126 0 0	60,196 2 0	15,727	1,511	17,038
Total for 15 weeks	279,824	64,003 4 0	2,13,153 20	6,773 15 0	135 0 0	71,817 3 0	16,647	1,603	18,050
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	18,347	4,296 12 3	9,929 10	405 9 0	6 15 0	4,711 4 3	1,036	102	1,138
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	193 4 7	.....	18 13 11	0 6 5	211 14 11	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 15 weeks of previous year	260,632	63,939 5 5	1,33,768 20	5,075 12 0	103 8 6	60,118 10 11	17,182	1,462	18,644

(a) The increase is due to "Doorga Poojah" traffic, chiefly from Howrah.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 23.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	(a) 18,674	(a) 4,364 14 0	9,676 20	511 0 0	9 0 0	4,624 14 0	942	98	1,040
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	193 10 5	.....	13 15 10	0 6 6	208 0 9	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15½ weeks of half-year ...	279,824	64,908 4 0	2,13,153 20	6,773 15 0	135 0 0	71,817 3 0	16,647	1,403	18,050
Total for 16½ weeks ...	298,498	69,213 2 0	2,23,030 0	7,084 15 0	144 0 0	76,442 1 0	17,589	1,495	19,084
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	23,680	5,510 3 6	10,023 10	401 8 0	8 12 0	5,929 1 6	1,002	96	1,098
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	244 4 5	.....	18 0 9	0 6 3	266 11 5	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 16½ weeks of previous year ...	304,212½	69,458 8 11	1,43,798 30	5,476 15 0	112 4 0	75,047 13 5	18,274	1,548	19,822

(a) The decrease is due to heavier traffic from Howrah in the corresponding period of 1898 owing to commencement of "Poojah" holidays.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 14th October 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	16,410	10,133 1 0	94,341 0	13,851 10 0	68 0 0	32,572 11 0	7,046	3,838	10,884
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	118 0 10	.....	82 4 9	0 6 9	200 12 4	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14½ weeks of half-year ...	246,180	2,30,457 12 0	12,03,065 20	1,70,020 1 0	941 0 0	4,01,418 13 0	100,530	48,813	1,49,343
Total for 15½ weeks ...	262,590	2,40,610 13 0	12,08,000 20	1,83,371 11 0	1,000 0 0	4,33,901 8 0	107,576	52,651	1,60,227
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	10,988½	19,608 2 11	80,601 11	10,243 1 0	104 3 6	39,955 7 5	8,144	3,192	11,336
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	120 13 9	.....	63 2 2	0 10 3	184 10 2	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 16½ weeks of previous year ...	2,61,802	2,27,806 3 9	9,01,623 10	1,34,612 15 7	905 6 0	3,63,324 9 4	110,147	46,972	1,57,119

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st October 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	17,166	18,427 1 0	82,681 30	11,433 13 0	68 0 0	29,928 14 0	6,721	3,317	10,038
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	113 9 3	.....	70 7 7	0 6 9	184 7 7	.....	.....	.....
For previous 16½ weeks of half-year ...	262,590	2,40,610 13 0	12,08,000 20	1,83,371 11 0	1,000 0 0	4,33,901 8 0	107,576	52,651	1,60,227
Total for 17½ weeks ...	279,756	2,68,037 14 0	13,80,688 10	1,94,806 8 0	1,077 0 0	4,63,920 6 0	114,297	55,968	1,70,265
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	10,790½	18,898 13 9	75,183 10	12,200 10 0	93 9 3	31,193 1 0	7,099	3,654	10,753
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	116 7 10	.....	75 8 2	0 9 3	192 4 3	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 16½ weeks of previous year ...	278,682½	2,44,705 1 6	9,76,810 20	1,40,813 9 7	998 15 3	3,04,517 10 4	117,245	60,680	1,77,925

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th October 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	8,236	Rs. A. P. 4,316 14 0	Mds. S. 44,091 20	Rs. A. P. 3,000 15 0	Rs. A. P. 14 0 0	Rs. A. P. 7,639 13 0	2,025	281	2,306
Or per mile of railway ...	...	54 13 2	...	42 8 8	0 2 10	97 2 8	...	...	...
For previous 13½ weeks of half-year ...	135,704	59,874 8 0	3,00,690 10	20,076 2 0	196 0 0	86,746 10 0	17,041	3,701	21,342
Total for 14½ weeks ...	134,000	64,191 6 0	3,53,671 30	20,005 1 0	210 0 0	94,406 7 0	19,066	3,982	23,048
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st October 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	No. 8,155	Rs. A. P. 4,158 3 0	Mds. S. 35,775 30	Rs. A. P. 2,570 4 0	Rs. A. P. 14 0 0	Rs. A. P. 6,751 7 0	1,945	281	2,226
Or per mile of railway ...	...	52 12 0	...	32 11 0	0 2 10	85 10 4	...	...	...
For previous 14½ weeks of half-year ...	134,000	64,191 0 0	3,53,671 30	20,005 1 0	210 0 0	94,406 7 0	19,066	3,982	23,048
Total for 15½ weeks ...	142,155	68,349 0 0	3,89,447 20	22,584 5 0	224 0 0	1,01,157 14 0	21,011	4,263	25,274
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	183,600	Rs. A. P. 98,930 0 0	Mds. S. 12,99,900 0	Rs. A. P. 2,87,050 0 0	Rs. A. P. 39,800 0 0	Rs. A. P. 4,25,780 0 0	35,900	51,800	87,200
Or per mile of railway ...	220	119 0 0	1,559 0	344 0 0	3 0 0	508 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 16 weeks of half-year ...	3,179,835	14,63,604 0 0	1,07,99,777 0	35,09,299 0 0	2,67,879 0 0	62,35,161 0 0	577,234	672,590	1,249,834
Total for 17 weeks ...	3,363,435	15,07,434 0 0	1,80,99,637 0	37,96,348 0 0	2,97,170 0 0	66,00,901 0 0	613,164	723,979	1,337,133
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	172,059	80,632 0 0	10,93,811 0	2,63,669 0 0	62,323 0 0	3,26,614 0 0	36,074	50,820	86,894
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	209	98 0 0	1,327 0	308 0 0	58 0 0	404 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,130,887	13,74,604 0 0	1,86,27,340 0	33,27,210 0 0	3,13,041 0 0	60,14,855 0 0	582,053	637,740	1,240,693

* Excluding steamer earnings.
† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 26th October 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	19,700	6,650 0 0	73,100 0	7,350 0 0	90 0 0	14,290 0 0	2,623	2,477	5,170
Or per mile of railway ...	229	80 0 0	850 0	85 0 0	1 0 0	163 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 16 weeks of half-year ...	3,91,840	1,19,515 0 0	5,79,633 0	48,204 0 0	2,714 0 0	1,70,523 0 0	40,831	24,557	65,388
Total for 17 weeks ...	4,11,540	1,26,165 0 0	5,82,733 0	55,644 0 0	2,804 0 0	1,84,815 0 0	43,524	27,034	70,558
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	16,656	5,669 0 0	46,514 0	4,510 0 0	349 0 0	10,548 0 0	2,106	2,160	5,266
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	194	66 0 0	541 0	53 0 0	4 0 0	123 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	3,67,719	1,18,116 0 0	5,05,672 0	44,203 0 0	3,520 0 0	1,65,545 0 0	40,808	36,474	77,280

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th October 1899* on 54 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	4,160	850 0 0	13,070 0	590 0 0	20 0 0	1,560 0 0	769	164	934
Or per mile of railway ...	77	16 0 0	242 0	11 0 0	...	29 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 16 weeks of half-year ...	57,183	12,839 0 0	65,709 0	3,920 0 0	83 0 0	16,862 0 0	8,177	13,169	21,346
Total for 17 weeks ...	61,343	13,689 0 0	78,839 0	4,510 0 0	103 0 0	18,422 0 0	8,937	13,333	22,270
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	2,773 0	126 0 0	...	126 0 0	...	463	463
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	51 0	4 0 0	...	4 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	4,144 0	194 0 0	...	184 0 0	...	990	990

* Due to opening of Jagannathganj Station.

† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,550	450 0 0	6,160 0	490 0 0	110 0 0	1,050 0 0	230	440	670
Or per mile of railway ...	63	18 0 0	249 0	20 0 0	4 0 0	43 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 16 weeks of half-year ...	23,314	7,057 0 0	1,17,598 0	7,768 0 0	838 0 0	15,083 0 0	3,409	10,496	13,975
Total for 17 weeks ...	24,864	7,507 0 0	1,23,486 0	8,258 0 0	948 0 0	16,783 0 0	3,639	10,936	14,545
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Includes ballast train-miles 330.

† Audited up to 2nd September 1899.

COOCH BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 33.19 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	2,710	Rs. A. P. 1,130 0 0	Mds. s. 11,670 0	Rs. A. P. 1,370 0 0	Rs. A. P. 130 0 0	Rs. A. P. 2,530 0 0	330	722	1,052
per mile of railway ...	82	34 0 0	352 0	39 0 0	1 0 0	73 0 0	.....	.....	.....
for previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	30,313	10,614 0 0	1,23,031 0	11,506 0 0	1,311 0 0	23,791 0 0	5,273	13,479	18,752
Total for 17 weeks ...	32,023	11,944 0 0	1,35,601 0	12,866 0 0	1,441 0 0	26,251 0 0	5,603	14,201	19,804
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	948	341 0 0	6,401 0	394 0 0	79 0 0	744 0 0	130	314	444
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	43	15 0 0	289 0	15 0 0	.....	20 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	30,496	7,237 0 0	69,711 0	6,412 0 0	1,708 0 0	15,417 0 0	2,635	9,180	11,815

* Audited up to 2nd September 1899.
† Excluding ferry.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Approximate Return of Traffic and mileage for the week ended 21st October 1899 on 139 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	23,143	Rs. A. P. 10,181 0 0	Mds. s. 1,01,000 0	Rs. A. P. 10,339 0 0	Rs. A. P. 119 0 0	Rs. A. P. 20,680 0 0	2,066	6,246	8,332
per mile of railway ...	178	78 0 0	727 0	75 0 0	1 0 0	154 0 0	.....	.....	.....
for previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	490,723	1,88,787 0 0	13,05,718 0	1,45,607 0 0	12,423 0 0	3,46,817 0 0	72,043	50,528	121,571
Total for 16 weeks ...	513,866	1,98,968 0 0	14,06,805 0	1,55,966 0 0	12,542 0 0	3,07,476 0 0	74,139	65,774	140,003
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	33,446	16,225 0 0	73,632 0	7,159 0 0	187 0 0	23,631 0 0	4,036	4,341	8,377
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	368	130 0 0	590 0	57 0 0	2 0 0	180 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	530,246	1,83,055 0 0	11,66,779 0	79,671 0 0	4,803 0 0	2,67,520 0 0	66,128	63,257	119,385

* Audited up to 9th September 1899.
† Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.

SEGOWLIE-BAKSALU BRANCH RAILWAY.

(WORKED BY THE B.-N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 21st October 1899 on 18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the period on 18 miles open ...	No. 51	Rs. A. P. 91 0 0	Mds. s. 25	Rs. A. P. 1 5 0	Rs. A. P. 4 0 0	Rs. A. P. 96 0 0	36	108	144
per mile of railway ...	2.83	0.05	1.39	0.08	0.22	5.33	.....	.....	.....
for previous 15 weeks of half-year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total for the period ...	51	91 0 0	25	1 0 0	4 0 0	96 0 0	36	108	144
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 18 miles open ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

N.B.—The line has been re-opened for goods traffic from 19th October 1899; a special train ran on 18th; hence the coaching traffic.

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

						Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 21st October 1899	...	...	...	...	...	12,530	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	...	...	...	17,822	0	0
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	5,292	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 21st October 1899	...	...	...	...	...	245	11	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	...	...	...	349	7	3
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	103	12	3
Receipts from 1st July to 21st October 1899	...	...	...	...	...	1,82,708	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	...	...	...	...	...	2,17,510	0	0
Decrease	...	...	...	...	...	34,802	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892.

THE Council met in the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 9th September, 1899.

Present:

The Hon'ble SIR JOHN WOODBURN, K.C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding.*

The Hon'ble MR. W. B. OLDHAM, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. R. B. BUCKLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. C. W. BOLTON, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble MR. E. N. BAKER.

The Hon'ble RAI DURGA GATI BANERJEA, BAHADUR, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. C. E. BUCKLAND, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. F. F. HANDLEY.

The Hon'ble MR. F. A. SLACK.

The Hon'ble KHAN BAHADUR MAULVI DELAWAR HOSAIN AHMED.

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN.

The Hon'ble MR. T. W. SPINK.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHASHI SHAKHARESWAR ROY BAHADUR, OF TAHIRPUR.

The Hon'ble SAHIBZADA MAHOMED BAKHTYAR SHAH, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble MR. D. F. MACKENZIE.

The Hon'ble MR. J. G. APCAR.

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A., D.L., F.R.A.S., F.R.S.E.

The Hon'ble BABU BOIKANTA NATH SEN.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ALLEGED ILLEGAL SENTENCE.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE asked :—

Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the case of one Hazle, who was convicted in May last by the Sub-divisional Officer of Raniganj of grievous hurt for having assaulted an old khansama named Hossein Buksh and knocked out two of his teeth, and was sentenced to a fine of sixty rupees, or in default to suffer rigorous imprisonment for six weeks? Did the Magistrate in his judgment say: "I consider that Hazle committed a cowardly assault on a defenceless old man, and that he should not be lightly punished?" Is not a sentence of fine illegal upon conviction in a case of grievous hurt under section 325, Indian Penal Code, which makes it obligatory upon the Magistrate to inflict a sentence of imprisonment? Having regard to the character of the assault committed by Hazle, which has been described by the Magistrate as "a cowardly assault upon a defenceless old man," and the obvious illegality of the sentence of fine, will the Government be pleased to take such action as the justice of the case may demand?

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON replied :—

"The attention of the Government was drawn to the case mentioned by the Hon'ble Member. The conviction and sentence, and the law as to the punishment for the offence of grievous hurt, are correctly stated in the question. The passage quoted also appears in the Magistrate's judgment. The accused was an Eurasian gunner-guard of the East Indian Railway. The Magistrate thought a fine of Rs. 60 adequate, and awarded Rs. 25 to the complainant as compensation, besides a small sum for costs. The character of the punishment, it is evident, was carefully considered by the Magistrate, with full regard to the circumstances of both the complainant and the accused; it was acquiesced in by the complainant, who could easily have moved the Magistrate of the district in the matter; and probably, therefore, the sentence, which gave him a compensation, was that which satisfied him. In these circumstances the Government did not interfere."

AID TO SANSKRIT, PERSIAN AND ARABIC SCHOOLS.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHASHI SHAKHARESWAR ROY BAHADUR, OF TAHIRPUR, asked :—

Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a short statement showing the total number of indigenous Sanskrit Grammar schools and the total number of indigenous Persian or Arabic schools that are receiving pecuniary help in any shape from the funds at the disposal of Local and Municipal Boards in Bengal and the amount of aid received from Local and Municipal Boards in Bengal by each of these two classes of indigenous schools during the last three years?

The Hon'ble MR. SLACK replied :—

"No returns giving the details asked by the Hon'ble Member are furnished to Government."

ENCOURAGEMENT TO INDIGENOUS SCHOOLS.

The Hon'ble RAJA SHASHI SHAKHARESWAR ROY BAHADUR, OF TAHIRPUR, asked :—

Will the Government be pleased to state how far, in its opinion, the

"That where Municipal and Local Boards exist, the registration, supervision and encouragement of indigenous elementary schools, whether aided or unaided, be entrusted to such Boards; provided that Boards shall not interfere in any way with such schools as do not desire to receive aid or to be subject to the supervision of the Boards."

Local and Municipal Boards are, in the matter of affording encouragement to the indigenous Sanskrit and Persian

"That the aid given to elementary indigenous schools be a charge against the funds at the disposal of Local and Municipal Boards, where such exist; and that every indigenous school, which is registered for aid, receive from such boards the aid to which it is entitled under the rules."

"That the officers of the Education Department keep lists of all elementary indigenous schools, and assist the Boards in selecting schools to be registered for aid, and in securing a proportionate provision of education for all classes of the community."

Grammar Schools of this Province, carrying out in practice the recommendations contained in paragraph 675 of the Report of the Education Commission, extracts from which,

for convenience of easy reference, I beg to quote in the margin?

The Hon'ble MR. SLACK replied:—

"All the information on the matter to which the Hon'ble Member alludes in his question is contained in the annual reports submitted to Government by the Director of Public Instruction. A copy of the latest of these reports, *viz.*, that for the year 1897-98, has been given to the Hon'ble Member, whose attention is invited to paragraphs 220 to 228 of the report. The Government will welcome from the Hon'ble Member any information he has in regard to the contributions to these schools, and will consider with him whether any action is necessary."

THE CIVIL COURTS AMINS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON introduced the Bill to repeal the Civil Courts Amins Act, 1856, in Bengal, and moved that it be read in Council. He said:—

"I beg now to introduce the Bill to repeal the Civil Courts Amins Act of 1856, in Bengal. In asking for leave at the last meeting of the Council I explained the reasons which have led the Government to the conclusion that it is desirable to abolish the system of Civil Court Amins and leave the Courts free to select Commissioners for local inquiries under section 392 of the Code of Civil Procedure. I stated that the Commissioners would be selected from the junior Pleaders and other competent persons in the districts; and rules as to the remuneration of such Commissioners will, no doubt, be issued by the High Court. The existing Amins will not be prejudiced by the repeal of the Act. They will retain their appointments, and be employed on such duties as may be assigned to them, including local inquiries in districts in which there may not be a sufficient number of competent persons for appointment as Commissioners. The present measure meets, I believe, with general approval, and, as it merely repeals the Act in Bengal, with the proviso that the appointment and pay of the existing Amins are saved, I do not propose to move that it be referred to a Select Committee, unless any Member of the Council desires that the reference should be made. The Bill will be published in the next Gazette, and I shall take an early opportunity of moving that it be considered in Council and passed. Any suggestions with regard to the working of the new system which any Hon'ble Members or outsiders may wish to offer will be gratefully received by the Government and fully considered."

The Hon'ble BABU BOIKANTA NATH SEN said:—"With your Honour's permission I beg to offer a few remarks with regard to this Bill. As I have just come from the mufassal, and the mufassal people know a good deal of the working of the Civil Courts Amins Act, and as my experience extends over a period of 35 years, I happen to know something about the working of this Act. After the Civil Courts Amins Act was passed, came in the Civil Procedure Code of 1859, that is, three years after that. Provisions were made in the Civil Procedure Code of 1859 for the appointment of Commissioners to hold local investigations, adjust accounts and effect partitions. Since then, the Civil Procedure Code has been amended several times. We have the authority in the Local Government to frame rules as to the qualification of Commissioners to be appointed for executing such commissions. Practically, now-a-days, commissions are issued simply for holding local investigations to Civil Court Amins, and partitions and adjustments of accounts are effected through other agencies. This Bill no doubt is a very short Bill, but its potency should not be judged by its dimensions, because large interests are entrusted to those Commissioners, especially in districts subject to diluvion and alluvion. There can be no possible objection whatsoever to the repeal of this Act; in fact, perhaps many would hail it with joy. But the Government is now attempting,

in order to secure efficiency, to raise the status of the Commissioners who are to be employed for such purposes. I would only venture to submit that, after the repeal of this Act, the Government will have to frame further rules under section 392, Civil Procedure Code. Perhaps it would not be out of place if I were to suggest, as I consider these rules will have to be looked upon as a mere supplement to this Act, that the Commissioners be selected from the junior members of the Bar, being sufficiently qualified; and a certificate of some sort may be enjoined upon them to be produced. Of course it is not for me to suggest in what particular way the certificate is to be obtained. A legal knowledge of sifting evidence is absolutely necessary; as these Commissioners will hold local investigations, they have to sift evidence on examination of witnesses. Then, if it be enjoined further that service as a Commissioner for holding local investigations in a certain number of cases be a condition precedent to the appointment of a Munsif, I submit that it would be raising the status of the Commissioners, and would at the same time be making provision for securing greater efficiency in respect of surveying works by the Judicial Officers as well. I do not mean to make any reflection on any one, but I do mean to say that even amongst the present Munsifs and Subordinate Judges only some are acquainted with surveying and many of them find difficulties in disposing of cases in which there are complicated questions of surveys and maps. In the course of 25 years, perhaps, if these posts of Munsifs and Subordinate Judges are filled up by these men, then I daresay there would be efficiency secured, and if the expectation be held out to these junior members of the Bar, that that would be a sort of stepping-stone to get the appointment of Munsif, it would have a moral influence over them, and it would be safeguarding against dishonesty. I submit therefore that if, in framing the rules which will have to be framed, these matters be considered, then no doubt proper measures would be taken for securing efficiency and honesty. There is also another aspect of the question which I would venture to submit. The Bengal Tenancy Act also contemplates local investigations. In the case of determination of the incidence of a tenancy, and in the case of a demand for enhancement of rent on the ground of the rate of rent being below the prevailing rate, local investigations are contemplated. If uniformity in the execution of commissions is to be attained, and if I rightly understood from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that the object is to dispense with paid official agency and that non-official men are to be employed to a certain extent, in that case these Commissions might also be entrusted for execution to these junior members of the Bar; but there is this difficulty, that in the Tenancy Act it is provided that the commission is to be issued to a Revenue-officer. Of course, this would necessitate a modification of the Tenancy Act itself. With these remarks I beg to entirely support this Bill, which ought to be passed without being referred to a Select Committee."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON in reply said:—"I am very glad to have heard the remarks made by my hon'ble friend Babu Boikanta Nath Sen. They will be useful in the consideration of the rules which should be passed with regard to the qualifications, especially in surveying, and the remuneration, of the persons employed under section 392 of the Civil Procedure Code. The Hon'ble Member's suggestion that qualification in surveying, as displayed in the carrying out of these local inquiries, should be held to give a claim to junior Pleaders to appointment to Munsifships is also well worthy of consideration. I should myself be disposed to put that suggestion in this way, that these local inquiries should be entrusted to the junior Pleaders who are already registered as candidates for Munsifships, rather than that junior Pleaders who have been employed on these inquiries should have a claim to be registered as candidates for Munsifships. We shall, after the repeal of the Act, have to communicate with the High Court with regard to the rules to be framed, and the present suggestion will be communicated to them for consideration and advice. The second suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member was that these junior Pleaders might be employed in inquiries under the Bengal Tenancy Act; but he admitted himself that a difficulty exists, inasmuch as the section of the Bengal Tenancy Act which provides for

local inquiries in rent suits specifies the employment of Revenue-officers. Under these circumstances, until that section is amended—and that must form part of an amendment of the Tenancy Act generally,—I fear that no change can be made. Only two years have elapsed since one Chapter of the Tenancy Act was amended, and that was a sufficiently formidable undertaking. The Government will certainly be slow to undertake a general amendment of the Act. The employment of Pleaders in these rent-suit inquiries, which my hon'ble friend Babu Boikanta Nath Sen would like to see introduced, is, therefore, unlikely to be accomplished for some time to come. I now move that the Bill be read in Council."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Bill was read accordingly.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER moved that the two Reports of the Select Committee on the Calcutta Municipal Bill be taken into consideration, and that the clauses of the Bill be considered in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Before we begin the discussion of the amendments which have been tabled, it may be as well that I should make a short statement on the matter. The main principles of the Bill have been settled by the Council. These are, in essence, four. The first is that there shall be three co-ordinate authorities, the Corporation, the General Committee, and the Chairman. This was settled in the debates of April, 1898, and has been approved by the Government of India. The second is that the Corporation shall consist of 50 members, 25 elected and 25 nominated. This was recommended to us by the Government of India, and accepted by us in our reference to the Select Committee last month. The third is that of the General Committee two-thirds shall be elected by the Corporation in equal proportions by the elected and the nominated Commissioners, and the remaining one-third by the Government. This was recommended to us by the Government of India; it was in line with the adjustment of the General Committee on which the Council decided in April, 1898, and it was accepted at the discussion of last month. The fourth and last is that the powers and functions of the Chairman and also of the General Committee shall be so clearly defined that within the limits of the powers and functions assigned to them their responsibility shall be exclusive and complete, and they shall not be subject to interference by the Corporation except when this is expressly provided in any case. This was accepted as the result of the discussions in April, 1898. These are the four essential and cardinal principles of the Bill. Some of the amendments of which notice has been given directly traverse these decisions of the Council. It will be my duty to declare that these are not in order. There is a body of amendments of such vast dimensions, which are in order, and which we shall have individually and carefully to discuss, that I should not be doing my duty to the Council at large, if I admitted, in addition, the re-opening of discussion on the essential principles of the Bill, on which decisions have already been arrived at by the Council. I shall have the less hesitation in pursuing this course because every assistance which it was in my power to give has been given for the presentation of views on these points, which differ from those of the majority of the Council. The Bill has now been 18 months before the public. The principles were stated and discussed at three meetings of this Council in March and April, 1898. The conclusions of the Council were opposed in the long and interesting Minute of Dissent by two Members of the Select Committee. The variations proposed by the Government of India were again discussed at the Council meeting of the 7th August, and all that could be said against the further conclusions of the Council is embodied in the further Notes of Dissent by the dissenting Members of our second Select Committee. There is thus on the records of the Council a complete statement of the arguments on which the minority of the Council maintained an opinion opposed to that of the majority, and no object could be attained by a reiteration of those arguments."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"With Your Honour's permission may I be permitted to say a few words by way of explanation, at any rate, of the attitude which the minority of the Council have felt it their duty to take with regard to some of those amendments to which Your Honour has just referred? Some of us have been connected with this Council for a long time. I consider myself to be one of the oldest Members of this Council, in the sense that my connection has been of the longest standing, and I may say for myself that, with the exception of the two cases which have been brought to my notice by the Hon'ble Mr. Baker, I do not remember a single instance in which any amendment has been ruled as being out of order because that amendment traversed any principles which have been accepted by this Council. And, Sir, referring to a discussion which took place in 1888 upon the Calcutta Municipal Act, I find that principles, the most vital, were traversed on the occasion when the motion for the third reading of the Bill was made and with the full concurrence of the President and the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, and they were traversed by no less a distinguished authority than the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gooroo Das Banerjee, who was at that time a Member of this Council."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"This is a question of order. I have stated the reasons which have led me to say that on certain main principles of the Bill there can be no further discussion."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I merely wish to place our case before Your Honour if you will grant me the indulgence to do so. I think it my duty to point out to Your Honour that you are making a departure from those principles which have been affirmed before. I would point out that the principle of amalgamation was accepted by the Council in 1888, and it was the main purpose of the Bill. Dr. Gooroo Das Banerjee brought in an amendment traversing that very principle, and it was allowed by the Lieutenant-Governor at that time and by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. My friend Babu Kali Nath Mitter traversed another principle almost as important, namely, the principle that the representative element should consist of three-fourths of the entire body. He was allowed to bring in a motion to that effect, and Mr. Irving brought in a motion of an opposite kind, namely, that only one-half of the members should consist of the representatives of the rate-payers. Therefore there are these precedents where the principle was affirmed, namely, that amendments were allowed which were in conflict with the principle already accepted by the Council, and it seems to me, Sir, having regard to the character of the Bill and the popular dissatisfaction which it has excited, that it is unwise to curtail discussion and shut out amendments on a ground which is altogether new and unprecedented according to the Rules of this Council."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"I think the Hon'ble Member will admit that if we are to permit the re-opening of discussions which have been concluded, we shall never get to the end of this business, and whatever may have been done in an individual instance, I think the majority of the Council will agree with me in thinking that the re-opening of the discussion of the principles of the Bill is no longer admissible."

The Motions were then put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"Before Mr. Apcar puts the amendments which stand in his name, I should like to make one suggestion. It will be seen that the amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10* all hang together. They are in form a mere matter of nomenclature, and the substantive amendments which they are dependent on are Nos. 16,* 25, 26,† 39 and 53.‡ If these three first amendments, Nos. 3, 4 and 10,* are to be regarded as a mere matter of nomenclature,

* Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 10 and 16 are printed on page 1919, *post*.

† Amendments Nos. 25 and 26 are printed on page 1940, *post*.

‡ Amendment No. 39 was "that in section 8 (now 9), sub-section (1), the words from and including 'and the Chairman' to the end of the sub-section be omitted." The amendment was put and lost at the meeting held on the 11th September, 1899.

Amendment No. 53 was "that a new section, numbered 8A, be inserted in the Bill." This amendment was withdrawn at the meeting held on the 11th September, 1899. The said section is printed in the Proceedings of that date.

then I think, Sir, it will be convenient if the consideration of them is postponed until after we have decided the substantive amendments on which they hang. If, however, they are not to be regarded as a mere matter of nomenclature, but as involving a principle, then I have no objection to their being discussed at once in their present place; but an adverse decision of the Council upon those three amendments would have the effect of striking out all the substantive amendments which would in that case depend upon them. Therefore I would venture to suggest for your consideration that amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10* be postponed and taken up along with the discussion on No. 16*, which is the first of Mr. Apar's substantive amendments on this point."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"With regard to amendment No. 3*, it is a matter of nomenclature, and it relates to the proper designation to be given to the head of the Executive. I am going to submit that the Chairman should not be, as there designated, the head of the Executive, and if he is the head of the Executive, he should not be also the Chairman of the Corporation."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Then I understand the Hon'ble Member agrees to postpone the discussion of these amendments until we reach the substantive proposals upon amendment 16*."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I have no objection to amendments 3, 4 and 10* standing over as the Hon'ble Member suggests, to be taken up after the amendments referred to."

SECTION 3.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"The next two amendments, 5 and 6, relate to definitions, and it is the practice to take amendments dealing with definitions at the close of the Bill, when the whole of the substantive provisions have been disposed of. I would therefore suggest that those two amendments, which stand in my name and in that of the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley, may be allowed to stand over for the present."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"They are such small matters that we can settle them at once."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER then moved the following amendment, numbered 5, namely, that for clause (1) of section 3 the following be substituted, namely,—

'(1) "bazar" means any place of trade (other than a market) where there is a collection of shops or warehouses.'

He said:—"It is rather difficult to explain the reason of this amendment without referring to a subsequent section of the Bill. We discovered, in looking over the sections of the Bill which relate to markets, that there was no provision which would enable us to require the owner of a bazar to introduce sanitary reforms. We could not compel him to supply water to it or to pave it or cleanse it or to do the same things to it which the owner of a market is bound to do under section 507A (now 486)†; for a 'bazar,' as defined in the Bill, is not the same thing as a 'market.' Therefore, in communication with the Chairman, I propose to alter the definition of 'bazar' given in the Bill. The definition given in the Bill is this: 'Bazar means any place of trade where there is a collection of shops or warehouses, and includes any place where a market is held.' Well, I propose now to define bazar in such a way as not to include a market. A market includes a place where there is a collection of shops for the sale of food or where there are stalls for the sale of food. I propose to alter that definition so as to make 'bazar' and 'market' two distinct things, and I shall subsequently propose in section 507A (now 486) to insert the words 'or any bazar' after the word 'market.' I understand the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, to whom I have spoken on the subject, is in general agreement with me. Therefore I shall say nothing further on the matter."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I entirely agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Baker; in fact, I suggested to him that there was an omission

* Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 10 and 16 are printed on page 1919, post

† The sections of the Bill having been re-numbered under the direction of the Council, the present number of each section is inserted in brackets, wherever the new numbering differs from the old.

in the Bill, and that we did not provide in the Bill for those sanitary measures which were required to be introduced not only in markets but also in bazars. Take, for instance, China Bazar. It is a place which requires a good deal of sanitation, but under the Bill as it was circulated we did not appear to take any powers which would enable the Corporation to make any sanitary arrangements in connection with China Bazar. It struck me that this was a matter of importance, and I placed myself in communication with my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Baker, and I am glad to give him my vote in this matter."

The Motion was then put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. BUCKLEY moved the following amendment, numbered 6, namely, that the following clause be inserted in section 3, namely:—

"domestic building" includes a dwelling-house and any other masonry building which is neither a "building of the warehouse class" nor a "public building" as defined in this section.

He said:—"The motion which I have to submit to the Council relates to the definition of 'domestic building.' The rules which are contained in Schedule XIVA (now XVII) of the Bill and which deal with certain conditions applicable, as the Bill now stands, only to dwelling-houses, were based mainly on the provisions of the London Building Act. That Act not only dealt with dwelling-houses as defined in that Act, but also with domestic buildings. Now, a dwelling-house is obviously a domestic building, but every domestic building is not necessarily a dwelling-house. For instance, under the terms of the definition of the London Building Act, a shop or a stable or, here in Calcutta, a kitchen, is a domestic building. Obviously it is not necessarily a dwelling-house. Now, some of the rules which are incorporated in Schedule XIVA (now XVII) of the Bill were clearly intended by the Calcutta Building Commission, on whose recommendations these provisions were mainly framed, to apply to such buildings as shops and stables. I will give one example. Under section 24 of Schedule XIVA (now XVII) there is a condition that there must be a certain space between two dwelling-houses. The reason of that rule is to prevent the formation of very narrow gullies running between houses, and the Bill provides that you must either make the space of a certain width or you must place the neighbouring buildings in contact with each other. It was obviously the intention that that condition should not only apply to dwelling-houses but also to shops and stables. It is therefore necessary that we should make a certain alteration in this Schedule by introducing the words 'domestic building.' The alteration will affect some other portions of the rules in the Schedule, but I do not think that Hon'ble Members will raise much objection to the results which will follow. I therefore move the amendment which stands in my name."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I am sorry to have to oppose this amendment. The amendment runs as follows:—

"domestic building" includes a dwelling-house and any other masonry building which is neither a "building of the warehouse class" nor a "public building" as defined in this section.

"Take the case of a Hindu temple. That would be a 'domestic building' under this definition."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"If the Hon'ble Member will look at the definition of 'public building,' he will find that all places of public worship are included in it."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I am quite aware of that. There are places of Hindu worship which are places of private and not of public worship. Here is a case in point. The late Babu Jadulal Mullick had a temple attached to his house, but it is not a public temple in any sense of the term. My friend has been sufficiently long in the country to know that there are Hindu gentlemen who have temples in their own houses. They are not public places of worship in the smallest degree; but if you accept this definition, you would apply all the elaborate provisions of the building sections to these private places of worship, and I as a Hindu

feel it my duty to protest against a provision of this kind. I think it is a matter that ought not to be overlooked. It will introduce serious complications in connection with places of worship. And then, again, take the case of a kitchen. A poor man has got a kitchen. That again comes within the definition of 'domestic building,' and are you going to apply to a kitchen all those elaborate rules with regard to buildings which you have found it necessary to introduce in this Bill? I hope and trust that, having regard to these circumstances, Your Honour will not consent to the acceptance of a definition which might be attended with serious complications, especially in regard to matters religious."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said:—"I think I can re-assure the Hon'ble Member. There is no intention whatever of applying all the provisions of the Building Regulations or of the Schedules either to private temples, or to kitchens, or to anything else of that kind. The sole intention is to substitute the words 'domestic building' for 'dwelling-house' in a very few of the rules in Schedule XIVA (now XVII). The principal one is the rule which provides for open spaces. Rule 20 of Schedule XIVA (now XVII) is as follows:—

- 'Every room in a dwelling-house which is intended to be used as an inhabited room—
- (a) must be in every part not less than ten feet in height, measured from the floor to the under side of the beam on which the roof rests;
 - (b) must have a clear superficial area of not less than eighty square feet; and
 - (c) must be provided, for purposes of ventilation, with doors or windows opening directly into the external air, or into a verandah, and having an aggregate opening of not less than one-fifth of the superficial area of that side or one of those sides of the room which faces or face an open space.'

"In that rule we propose to substitute the term 'domestic building' for 'dwelling-house.' It is quite clear that if an inhabited room is found inside a shop or in an office or in a stable, the regulations relating to inhabited rooms ought to apply to it. Rule 22 of the same Schedule relates to the open space in rear of a house. It is quite clear that the rules about open spaces at the rear and sides of a dwelling-house ought to apply to every building in which people live. We know that in this town people do live in shops. It often happens that a man has a small house of which he uses the greater part as his shop, while he keeps a couple of rooms in which he lives and sleeps. That is the kind of case to which this rule is intended to apply. The next rule is 23, which is as follows:—

'If any person desires to erect a dwelling-house in a street laid out before the commencement of this Act upon a site which, before the commencement of this Act, was occupied by a dwelling-house, and the site is of such a nature that it is impracticable to provide an open space in the rear of the house of the dimensions prescribed by rule 22, the General Committee may relax the provisions of that rule:

'Provided that—

- (a) such open space shall be left as the General Committee may consider practicable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, and
- (b) not more than two-thirds of the total area of the site shall be occupied by masonry buildings or verandahs.'

"Well, that provides for the relaxation of the provisions of rule 22 about open spaces at the back. I cannot imagine that the Hon'ble Member will have any possible objection to that."

The Hon'ble Mr. BUCKLEY said:—"It is entirely in his favour."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said:—"Rule 24 is the next one. It is as follows:—

'(1) Except in localities where the erection of only detached buildings is allowed, if either side of a dwelling-house is not attached to the adjacent building, and if such side does not abut on an open square or the like which is dedicated to public use and is consequently not likely to be built upon, there must be between the house and such building an open space extending along the entire length of such side and belonging exclusively to the house.

'(2) The minimum distance across such space from every part of the house to the boundary line, or (if the boundary is a wall) the inner edge of the boundary wall, of the land or building immediately opposite such part, shall be—

- (a) six feet, if there is a building next to such boundary line or wall, or
- (b) four feet, if there is an open space of at least four feet on the other side of such boundary line or wall.'

"This is on all fours with rule 22. I think the remaining cases are in rules 26 and 29. Those are the only cases in which we propose to substitute the term 'domestic building' for 'dwelling-house,' and it is quite clear that these are not matters in which the objections of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee will have any force."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I have great sympathy with what the Hon'ble Member has said, but what I am afraid of is that the sections may lead to complications in the future. I think with the Hon'ble Member that the provisions for the sanitary condition of dwellings are very necessary. Sometimes it happens that there are persons living even in a temple, and there may be considerable difficulty arising in the operation of the law in such questions. If I could see my way to have a clear definition and a clear wording so as to get over the difficulty which my hon'ble friend Babu Surendranath Banerjee pointed out, I should certainly support the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley's amendment."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I am in strong sympathy with the Hon'ble Member who moved the amendment and with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill with regard to sanitation, but I would like to make a suggestion which might put an end to the difficulty, namely, to insert the word 'inhabited' before the words 'masonry building'."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"That would not be possible."

The Hon'ble MR. OLDHAM said:—"I should like to mention that Hindus are not the only people who have places of private worship in their houses. According to my friend, the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee's description of them, these places of worship are essentially private, and I cannot see why, like private Catholic chapels, they should not be subject to the restrictions which are intended to provide for buildings of their nature."

The Hon'ble MR. BUCKLEY said:—"It was at the suggestion of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee that this motion was taken now instead of being taken, as the Hon'ble Mr. Baker suggested it should be, after the proposed amendments, which are to be introduced in Schedule XIVA (now XVII), had been considered. I think, had the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee permitted the proposal of the Hon'ble Mr. Baker to be carried out, he would have seen that the difficulties which he has raised are rather imaginary. As a matter of fact, I should personally not have the least objection to Hindu temples being excepted. I have no objection whatever to that, but I would point out to the Hon'ble Member that the alteration, if in some respects it is perhaps not altogether in accordance with his ideas, in two important respects is a direct concession to opinions which I know he holds. As regards what the Hon'ble Member said about there being no objection to kitchens or stables being excepted from the operation of the proposed rule, I would point out to him that there are many parts of the town—even in the European part of the town—where two stables are a short distance from each other, and those are sometimes insanitary places. It would not do at all to use the expression 'inhabited masonry building' as is suggested, because that would permit uninhabited masonry buildings as well as kitchens and stables being built at short distances apart, which would be extremely insanitary. With reference to temples, I believe it is commonly the case that the Priests and other Officers of the temple do live in them, and sanitary rules which apply to other inhabited buildings ought to apply to them."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Do you accept the suggestion that Hindu temples should be excluded?"

The Hon'ble MR. BUCKLEY said:—"I have no objection to Hindu temples being excepted."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"It would be better to let the definition stand, and then, when we come to the Schedule, we may be able to make an alteration in the rules of the Schedule."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON said:—"I confess I should be better prepared to form an opinion on this amendment if further time were allowed for its consideration."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"I think that is the best solution. We can consider this when we come to the Schedules."

The further consideration of this amendment was then postponed until Schedule XIVA (*now* XVII), Part IV, had been dealt with.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"The Hon'ble Raja Bahadur Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur is unfortunately ill and therefore unable to be present to-day, but he has sent in a list of amendments which he proposes in regard to the Bill. I cannot find any rule in the Rules for the Conduct of Business regulating this particular matter; but I have no doubt the Council will accept my decision as President that the Hon'ble the Raja Bahadur, of Tahirpur, shall be allowed to move the amendments in his name."

The Hon'ble RAJA SHASHI SHAKHARESWAR ROY BAHADUR, OF TAHIRPUR, in the absence of the Hon'ble Raja Ranajit Sinha Bahadur, of Nashipur, moved on behalf of the latter that the words "diphtheria, enteric fever and typhoid fever" be omitted from sub-clause (a) of clause (12) of section 3. He said:—

"This paper, containing a few amendments suggested by my friend, the Hon'ble Raja of Nashipur, who is ill, as is known to you, Sir, and therefore not in a position to attend the meeting to-day, has been placed in my hands with a request that I should move them on his behalf, so I beg to move that the words 'diphtheria, enteric fever and typhoid fever' be omitted from sub-clause (a) of clause 12 of section 3.

"I think I should add here that personally I am not in full sympathy with this amendment, because in my humble opinion these are certainly diseases which may be classed as dangerous."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I did not understand that this amendment would be brought on now, but I can explain why these particular diseases were mentioned in the definition. They are taken from the definition of dangerous diseases in the English Statute for the prevention of diseases; and if you refer to the definition given here, it will be seen that it is open to the Government, by a Notification in the Calcutta Gazette, to add any other epidemic or endemic or infectious disease to this list. Therefore, if there is any feeling that it would not be desirable to include such diseases as diphtheria, enteric fever and typhoid fever, I have not the least objection to accepting their omission, because it will be in the power of Government to insert them afterwards if it should at any time be found desirable."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I think that these diseases should be included, and I may say as a late Member of the Corporation that we invited the Health Officer to the conferences that we held in connection with this matter, and it was in accordance with the advice given to us by the Health Officer that we included these diseases."

The Motion was then put and lost.

SECTION 4.

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN moved that in section 4, after the word "and" the words "subject to the control of the Corporation" be inserted. He said:—

"Section 4 proposes to enact how a question where a dispute as to whether a particular piece of land or cluster of huts is or is not a 'bustee' or 'bustee land' arises, should be decided, and the power has been given to the General Committee to decide those questions finally.

"'Bustee' and 'bustee land' have been defined in the preceding section.

"The question whether or not a piece of land is or is not a 'bustee' or 'bustee land' is of very great importance to the owner.

"Various responsibilities and liabilities have been imposed upon him by this Bill. He is made liable to pay the consolidated rates payable by the occupiers of *bustee land* and huts—section 159 (*now* 180). Distress warrants will be issued against him in case of default. He is responsible for keeping the *bustee* clean

—is liable to pay for any additional establishment the municipal authorities may maintain for cleansing it—and is liable to pay heavy fines if the *bustee* is not cleansed in accordance with notice issued by the Municipality. He has to bear the cost of preparing standard plans—section 419 (*now* 400). He is restrained from building huts on *bustees* until the standard plan is prepared and approved—he cannot alter the standard plan. He is required to construct drains, privies, streets and passages, and to carry out other improvements in old *bustees* in accordance with the standard plan so far as may be practicable.

“He has to make or pay for all improvements ordered by the General Committee on the report of the medical officer deputed under section 425 (*now* 406). He incurs heavy fines under various sections of the Bill.

“This being his position, it is natural that the owner would prefer to have the question finally decided by the Corporation. The elected Commissioners are expected to realise the inconveniences of the owners and to be cognizant of all the incidents of *bustees* and *bustee* land. It is an essential element of the fair dealing out of justice that the party interested must be conscious that justice has been done, and that any reasonable apprehension that he has not got fair justice dealt out to him should be removed.

“It cannot be urged by the Hon’ble Member in charge of the Bill that the Corporation, if the body is formed under the newly revised Bill, is not sufficiently representative according to the Government view. That being so, there is no reason why the Corporation should not be trusted and why they should not be converted into a responsible body.”

The Hon’ble MR. BAKER said:—“The Hon’ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen has said that this question is one of great importance to the owner of a *bustee*. That may be, but the determination of the question whether a particular piece of land is *bustee* land, as defined in the Act, or not is a comparatively small question of executive detail, and it is contrary to the whole principles on which the Council and the Select Committee have acted to transfer any small question of detail to the decision of the Corporation. It is possible—in fact, it is probable—that to determine whether any particular piece of land is *bustee* land or not it might be necessary to make a local inquiry. It might often happen that a local inquiry would be the best way of determining it. Now, Sir, how could the Corporation, a body of 50, make a local inquiry? The practical effect of the amendment of the Hon’ble Member would be to give an appeal to the Corporation against a decision of the General Committee; and from first to last the Select Committee, and I may say this Council, have set their faces against conferring any appellate powers on the Corporation, for there is no sort of power the Corporation is less fitted to exercise than the power of appeal. Moreover, if the Hon’ble Member had referred to Chapter XXIII (*now* XXVI), which deals with *bustees*, he would have found that the Corporation has very little to do with matters affecting *bustees*. It has the power to sanction plans for the improvement of *bustees*, but with that exception it has no power whatever in any matter of detail. By section 417 (*now* 398), the first section of that Chapter, it is provided that the General Committee has the sole power to determine the external limits of a *bustee*. For these reasons, Sir, I think it would be absolutely inconsistent and improper to accept the amendment, which I therefore oppose.”

The Hon’ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—“I am very much in sympathy with the amendment, and I must object to the passage in the speech of the Hon’ble Member in charge of the Bill in which he was pleased to say that this is a matter of Executive detail, and local inquiries might be necessary. If so, why not give this power to the Chairman? The Chairman, as the Head of the Executive, is most fitted to carry on Executive work, and local inquiries the Chairman would be the best person to conduct. If it is an Executive matter, and if local inquiries are to be held in connection with it, the General Committee will probably depute some local officer to make the inquiry; the Corporation might do the same thing. Then, Sir, when the Hon’ble Member in charge of the Bill was pleased to say that the Corporation was least fitted to exercise the powers of appeal, I must say that I was somewhat astonished at that remark, because if you turn over the sections of this Bill you will find that there are sections upon sections which confer an appellate authority on the

Corporation. I think the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham sympathised with us in relieving the General Committee of the pressure of work which the Bill imposes upon that Committee. Having regard to the fact that the General Committee will be overweighted with work, and being so overweighted it is liable to make mistakes, it seems to me as a necessary safeguard that the power of appeal ought to be conferred upon the Corporation. I think the amendment ought to be accepted. A right of appeal is not a thing which everybody will make use of on every occasion, and the Corporation is not likely to be overburdened with work. It is only when something is done which calls for redress, and a man feels he has a grievance, that he will avail himself of the right of appeal to the Corporation."

The Hon'ble MR. OLDHAM said:—"The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee has quoted me quite correctly, but I must point out to him that his quotation is not to the point in the present connection. I always agreed with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that the Corporation was the last body to be entrusted with appellate powers, and I do not see how it will lessen the work of the General Committee if there is to be an appeal from the General Committee to the Corporation. He also spoke about the Corporation holding local enquiries and about a General Committee holding enquiries. In my experience as Commissioner the Corporation has never held a local enquiry, but the General Committee has frequently held a local enquiry."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I do not myself follow the idea that the Corporation is to hold a local enquiry. An enquiry will have to be held, and the matter will have to be submitted to the Corporation. There is no difficulty in a matter such as that, but, when my hon'ble friends Mr. Baker and Mr. Oldham in chorus say that they cannot trust the Corporation with appellate powers, may I remind both of them what Sir Henry Harrison said: how much he valued the power that the Chairman had of appeal to the general body of Commissioners? I know my friends the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham and the Hon'ble Mr. Baker may make light of what Sir Henry Harrison said when it tells against any contention that they may be urging, but, at any rate, I know the manner in which Your Honour has spoken of the capacity and experience of Sir Henry Harrison. I therefore cannot agree with my friends that, so far as the Corporation is concerned, they are not capable of dealing with matters in appeal which come before them. The Corporation has exercised appellate powers in a way that has been commended by Sir Henry Harrison, and in a matter such as this I do not think it is asking too much for at least an appeal to be allowed to the Corporation."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON said:—"I oppose this amendment for three reasons. First, the definition of *bustee* is simple and clear; secondly, a body of 12 competent men forming the General Committee may be trusted to interpret and apply that definition correctly; and thirdly, if you refer the question to a larger body, there will be more chance of discord. A matter of this kind should, I think, be left in the hands of the General Committee."

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA said:—"I regret I am unable to support this amendment; but I do not agree with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that the Corporation is the last body to be entrusted with the power of hearing appeals from the decisions of the General Committee. If he means to lay this down as a general proposition, I disagree with him, but I agree that this is the last instance in which such a power of appeal should be given. The word '*bustee*' and the words '*bustee land*' are defined in section 3. The matter seems to me to involve a very simple question of fact, and I am not prepared to believe that a decision upon a simple question of fact by 12 persons is likely to be less correct than a decision of that question by a larger body of 50. If the decision of the question had involved a decision upon a question of principle I should certainly have been prepared to give an appeal from the decision of the General Committee."

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN in reply said:—"This amendment is objected to on the ground that a large body of 50 would not be able to make a

local inquiry, and that this could be better done by a body of 12. I fail to see why that should be so.

"If, as was suggested by one of the Hon'ble Members, objection is taken on the score of the inconvenience of a large body of men deciding such a question, why not leave it to the Chairman alone? I could have well understood it if this matter was left entirely to the discretion of the Chairman. He is the chief Executive authority of the Corporation; but, with due deference to the opinions expressed by the dissentient members, I should contend that this appeal is very necessary. I might, however, change the wording of the amendment and put it thus: 'subject to an appeal to the Corporation' instead of 'subject to the control of the Corporation.' I need not add anything more to what my friends, the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee and the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, have said."

The Hon'ble Mr. BUCKLEY said:—"There is one point in connection with this matter which I think has perhaps been overlooked by the Council. As a matter of fact, any question of this kind would, I take it, come in the first instance before the General Committee, for under the provisions of section 88 (now 95) of the Bill the General Committee can, and I hope very largely will, delegate certain of its powers and duties to Sub-Committees. There will unquestionably be a *Bustee* Sub-Committee, and the business of that *Bustee* Sub-Committee will be to deal with all details of this kind. I take it that the real intention of the mover of this amendment is that where any decision is given there should be some appeal. He will have, as a matter of fact, in almost all cases an appeal practically from the *Bustee* Sub-Committee to the General Committee, because all the doings of the *Bustee* Sub-Committee will be subject to the control of the General Committee. As a matter of fact, I believe that, under the London Building Act, such a matter as this would be dealt with in a far simpler way. In London there is a Superintending Architect who gives the preliminary decision, and curiously enough his decision is final, subject only to appeal to a body which is called the Tribunal of Appeal. There is no power of appeal to any Committee or Sub-Committee or Corporation at all. There is a regular *quasi-independent* body called the Tribunal of Appeal which deals with technical matters of that kind. I think, therefore, to give a power of appeal to the Corporation in this case is quite unnecessary and out of the question."

The Motion was then put in the following form:—

"that in section 4, after the word 'and' the words 'subject to an appeal to the Corporation' be inserted",
and was lost.

SECTION 5.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT ruled the following motions standing in the name of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, to be out of order:—

- (1) that section 5 be omitted;
- (2) if the last amendment be lost, that for section 5 be substituted "The entire Municipal Government of Calcutta shall vest in the Corporation."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said:—"With regard to motion No. 11 of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee that the words 'of the Corporation' in clause (3) of section 5 be omitted, in this case also the amendment is really dependent on the decision that may be come to on Nos. 16, 18, 25, 45 and 55,* and it would be convenient to discuss it along with those amendments. My reason for suggesting that it should be postponed is exactly the same as the reason for which I suggested the postponement of Nos. 3 and 10.†"

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, to be out of order:—

- (1) That the following proviso be added to section 5:—

"Provided that both the General Committee and the Chairman shall be responsible to the Corporation for the due and satisfactory performance of their duties under this Act."

* Amendments Nos. 16, 18 and 25 are printed on pages 1919 and 1940, *post*.

Amendment No. 45 was a motion for the insertion in section 8 (now 9) of a clause requiring the General Committee to appoint a President of their body. Amendment No. 55 was a motion for the insertion in section 10 (now 11) of a clause requiring the Corporation to appoint a President of their body. Both these amendments were withdrawn at the meeting held on the 11th September, 1899.

† Amendments Nos. 3 and 10 are printed on page 1919, *post*.

(2) If the last amendment be lost, that the following proviso be added to section 5:—

“Provided that it shall always be open to the Corporation, on a requisition made in that behalf by any five Commissioners, to consider any decision of the General Committee or the Chairman; and the orders of the Corporation upon such decision shall be final.”

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motion, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen, to be out of order:—

That to section 5 the following proviso be added:—

“Provided that any decision of the General Committee or the Chairman may be considered by the Corporation, on a requisition made in that behalf by not less than six members of the Corporation; and the decision of the Corporation shall be final.”

SECTIONS 6, 8 (1), (2), 43 (3), 46, 47, 49, 50 and 59 (1), AND SCHEDULE V, RULES 5 AND 6.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motion, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen, to be out of order:—

That section 6, section 7, sub-section (1), section 34, sub-section (3), sections 37, 38, 40 and 41, section 52B, sub-section (1), and rules 5 and 6 of Schedule IVB, of the Bill as revised by the Select Committee in April last, be restored.*

NOMENCLATURE; POSITION OF CHAIRMAN (SECTIONS 5 AND 6).

The following notices of amendment, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Mr. Apar, were then brought forward, namely:—

No. 3: that for the expressions “Chairman” and “Chairman of the Corporation,” wherever they occur throughout the Bill, the expressions “Commissioner” and “Municipal Commissioner” should respectively be substituted.

No. 4: that for the expression “Commissioner,” wherever it occurs throughout the Bill, the expression “Councillor” be substituted.

No. 10: that in section 5, clause (3), for the words “a Chairman of the Corporation” the words “a Municipal Commissioner” be substituted.

No. 16: that in section 6 the words “the Chairman and” be omitted.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER, speaking of amendment No. 16,† said:—“This amendment is identical with amendment No. 18, which stands in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, and I would suggest that these two amendments be discussed together.”

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—“Quite so.”

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—“I would further suggest that amendment No. 19‡, which stands in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, and which is an alternative to his amendment No. 18, should similarly be taken and discussed together with the latter.”

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—“I think the proper procedure will be to take up the discussion of amendment No. 16,† and, as the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee's motion is identical with that of the Hon'ble Mr. Apar's, whatever the conclusion of the Council may be upon amendment No. 16,† the Hon'ble Member will no doubt accept No. 18 without further argument.”

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—“I suppose there will be a discussion?”

* i.e., that the sections and rules mentioned should be substituted for the corresponding sections of the Bill as further revised by the Select Committee [now sections 6, 8 (1), (2), 43 (3), 46, 47, 49, 50 and 59 (1) and rules 5 and 6 of Schedule V].

† Printed on page 1919, *infra*.

‡ Amendment No. 19 was “that the words ‘the Vice-Chairman’ be inserted after the word ‘Chairman’ in lines 1 and 2 of section 6.” It is printed on page 1910, *post*.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said :—"Yes, upon amendment No. 16,* and whatever the conclusion may be upon that will apply to the Hon'ble Member's motion No. 18."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said :—"I would suggest that Nos. 18 and 19† should be taken together, because they are alternative, and it would be convenient to have one discussion. Of course the amendments would be moved separately."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said :—"Amendment No. 19† is a different matter altogether. The one refers to the Bombay system and the other to the Calcutta system. The difference is as wide as between the arctic and the antarctic poles."

The Hon'ble Mr. APCAR said :—"Since Your Honour has been graciously pleased to permit me to move the adoption of the amendment No. 16* which stands in my name, I shall take advantage of the opportunity to ask for its acceptance, although, with the indications before me, I confess I do not expect any measure of success.

"If I may be permitted to make a personal explanation, the ruling that now has been made has taken me completely by surprise. I have not seen anything in the rules or standing orders to lead me to think that it was possible that I might meet with such a ruling, and I have given my whole attention to certain matters, all of which now proves to be waste of labour. I would have been glad to have given my attention wholly to matters of detail in the Bill, and to put aside those relating to the constitution of the Corporation, if only I had entertained a suspicion of what in the result would be the fate of the amendments that have been disallowed. Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in closing the debate on the 6th March, 1898, when the Bill was referred to the Select Committee, said :—

'As I said last Saturday, the one feature in the Bill about which Government has made up its mind is the strengthening of the City Executive.'

"The proposals relating to the question mentioned by Sir Alexander Mackenzie are contained in section 23 (now 13) of the Bill. The ruling of to-day which has eliminated my amendments goes further, to a great extent, than was in the mind of the originator of the Bill. I suppose I must take it that I have misled myself, but I confess that I never suspected that there was room for any doubt upon the point, because in the proceedings connected with the Act of 1888—an Act which the Bill before us is intended to repeal—the report relating to which has been day after day under my observation, I have noticed how, when the object and purpose of the Bill was to amalgamate the suburbs with the administration of the town, amendments directly opposed to this principle, and expressly stated as intended to oppose this principle, were not only permitted to be moved, but in fact were discussed at some length in the Council. This may have been all wrong, but there is the precedent before us in a Bill affecting the Corporation. I confess I am very sorry to have so misled myself, particularly as the result is that many days of labour have been absolutely thrown away, which might have been utilised in other directions.

"In approaching the task before me, while the impression created by the speech that closed the discussion in the first debate that I had the honour to attend, is still fresh in my mind, I feel how utterly unequal I am to emulate that gentle-tempered address which was so eminently calculated to put aside wrath. But, together with my admission of weakness and incapacity to employ soothing phrases, I would ask that allowance be made for me for the reason that mine is not the position of a ruler of a province, who speaks in this Legislature from the dais, with the assured support of a body of voters on either hand. I am only a humble combatant, so to speak, struggling desperately against overwhelming odds, who has to suffer the rough and tumble of the contest, and I needs must use such efforts as I find necessary for my support. I have no desire to call a spade a spade in the sense in which such a

* Printed on page 1919, ante.

† Amendment No. 19 was "that the words 'the Vice-Chairman' be inserted after the word 'Chairman' in lines 1 and 2 of section 6." It is printed on page 1940, post.

phrase is used; but, paraphrase it how I may, it is a spade that I may have to describe, and I will be forced, in order to convey my meaning, to express myself as I best can in the controversy. I can only submit to a test as to the accuracy and truth of my statements, and as to whether the use of my facts is justifiable.

"Before I turn to this particular section, Sir, I am led by what transpired on a previous occasion to say that I trust my hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill will not jump up to interrupt me with the objection that I am attacking the Executive of the Municipality, and will not be inspired by any such fanciful idea. I disclaim any idea of attacking the Municipal Executive. If I wanted to attack the Municipal Executive, I would not come to the Bengal Council for the purpose. I could do so more effectually from my place in the Municipality. My hon'ble friend is aware that where I have thought it necessary I have not hesitated to do so. I repeat, my intention is to state facts in support of my contentions. If I am inaccurate, I shall be glad to be set right. But I cannot be stopped from making use of the reasons that I rely upon, because they happen to tell against the Municipal Executive.

"Now, Sir, there have been many ideas as to why the Municipality have failed, and we have many remedies proposed to remedy their shortcomings. But Government seem never to have thought of the idea that the system of appointing the Chairman is in fault, and that the remedy is the simple one of allowing the Corporation the choice of their own Chairman. I have long contended that it is not fair to blame the Corporation until you shall have given them the choice of electing their own Chairman; and this is the remedy I now submit to the Council. I go so far as to say that under the present system the Government are themselves responsible for the shortcomings of the Corporation, for they appoint the Chairman; they will have those only who will be under their power completely, and through their Chairman they generally can carry out any measure they may seriously be bent upon. The Chairman can do anything he wishes to do by appealing to the whole body of the Corporation. This has been proved again and again, and Sir Henry Harrison, as I have before shown, relied upon this very power of appeal. If a Chairman were to prove recalcitrant, he would be removed. I would remind the Hon'ble Mr. Bolton how some time ago the Corporation were not permitted to have an official of their choice, to whom they were willing to vote the full pay of the post; but a younger and less experienced Chairman was given to them. I will give another instance, that occurred at a very much later period, of a Chairman of their choice being refused to them, and it is a concrete instance showing that the Government will not permit any one who is not directly subordinate to them, and is not directly under their power and direction, to be the Chairman. I myself communicated to Sir Charles Elliott, when he was Lieutenant-Governor of this Province, the name of an official who was about to retire, and I represented to him what I have been saying to-day, that it was not fair to the Corporation to blame them unless they were allowed the choice of their own Chairman. On the day before Sir Charles Elliott left us, he informed me that he had made over the question to his successor, who would deal with it. I had before been told by a highly placed official that the Government would never consent to any person being Chairman who was not in active service under them, and it is so widely known now that it is no secret that this was the very reason why the gentleman to whom I refer was not appointed. Here was one who was highly approved by the European non-official community. I had ascertained that he would be welcomed by my native friends. We were willing to fix the salary at a sum that was acceptable to the candidate we supported, who himself was willing to become our Chairman. He was a man of energetic habits, of a practical turn of mind, in robust health and approved of by all. He had won his spurs in the service; he had been decorated by the Queen, and he had filled one of the highest posts in the Province. Nevertheless the Government would not appoint him. It could not be that they thought that he was broken in health and unfit to continue to work in this country; because, after they refused to appoint him as Chairman, Government gave him an appointment in this country, and I am not sure that he is not still holding it. Then why would not Sir Alexander Mackenzie appoint so unexceptionable a person to be the Chairman? What other reason

can be given but that the Government will not appoint any person who is independent of them?—that they will not permit any person to hold that position if he is not entirely dependent on them, and is not directly subject to their power and authority? By insisting on appointing a Chairman in their service the Government can control and direct the administration, and this they know. They will not trust one who has been trained in their service, but is not under their control. I do not think that it is a far-fetched idea that the Government are not free from responsibility with regard to the shortcomings of the Corporation.

“Again, one of the most mischievous influences under the present system has been the frequent changes in the office of Chairman. I have taken the trouble to draw up a table showing the changes in the office since Sir Henry Harrison left in the year 1890. I will read it to the Council:—

Mr. Lee	...	Appointed	16th April, 1890	...	Left on privilege leave, 5th July, 1892.
„ Ritchie	...	Officiated	6th July, 1892	...	Acted until 24th September, 1892.
„ Lee	...	Returned	25th September, 1892	...	Left on 6 months' furlough on 24th March, 1893.
„ Ritchie	...	Officiated	25th March, 1893	...	Left on privilege leave, 31st March, 1895.
Vice-Chairman	...	Ditto	16th October, 1894	...	Acted until 4th November, 1894.
Mr. Ritchie	...	Confirmed	1st April, 1895	...	Left on privilege leave on 13th April, 1896.
Vice-Chairman	...	Officiated	21st September, 1895	...	Acted until 20th November, 1895.
Mr. Williams	...	Appointed	14th April, 1896	...	Left on privilege leave on 31st August, 1896.
Vice-Chairman	...	Officiated	1st September, 1896	...	Acted until 23rd October, 1896.
Mr. Williams	...	Returned	24th October, 1896	...	Went on leave on 18th May, 1897.
„ Bright	...	Officiated	19th May, 1897	...	Went on sick leave on 6th March, 1896.
„ Greer	...	Ditto	7th March, 1898	...	Acted until 23rd November, 1898.
„ Bright	...	Returned	24th November, 1898	...	

“It is impossible for an administration to be carried on with any hope of satisfactory results, when the breaks in the continuity of service in the office of Chairman have occurred so frequently. A new Chairman coming fresh to duties of a novel nature has, in the nature of things, to learn the alphabet of his business. Before he has mastered it, he goes on leave, and his *locum tenens* has to begin the process afresh. When he returns he has to acquire knowledge of what has transpired in his absence and to re-learn what he has forgotten. All this while the administration has to go on with its own momentum. The Chairman coming new to his work is in the hands of the heads of departments, instead of supervising and controlling them. He is entirely ignorant of the history of the questions that come up for decision, and I have no hesitation in saying that, if it were not for the working members of the General Committee, who have been old and experienced members of the Corporation, the administration could not have been carried on. In all these circumstances it is not surprising to find that when a new Chairman comes he upsets the policy of his predecessor. The administration must suffer when it has to be carried on in such adverse conditions. If there was an enquiry, it could be shown how often this kind of proceeding has happened. I can give some instances that occur to my mind. The last change in the office was when Mr. Greer acted for Mr. Bright. I have no wish to mention names, but I cannot help myself, in order to avoid confusion, since the changes have occurred with such frequency. The case I am about to give is one I already have mentioned, and is of a striking character, because it involved an expenditure of Rs. 60,000. Mr. Bright had rejected the scheme of the Engineer to get out pumping machinery at such a large cost without calling for tenders, and in consultation with the Government authorities had preferred another scheme. Mr. Bright went away on leave, Mr. Greer came into office, and almost immediately brought before the General Committee that very matter which Mr. Bright had already decided. The Commissioners, who were wholly ignorant of what had before been decided, were invited by Mr. Bright's *locum tenens* to adopt a proposal that the permanent incumbent had considered and rejected. Then as to Mr. Bright and his predecessor. I will first take the question about the Loans Department. It is a question which forms the subject of one of Mr. Risley's charges. This is one of the offences in Mr. Risley's eyes which he has quoted to prove the Commissioners to be unfit for administering the affairs of Calcutta, because they did not accede to Mr. Williams' request to transfer the Loans Department, which is most excellently worked by the Municipality, to the Bank of Bengal. The Commissioners had protested that the transfer would impose needless expenditure and was uncalled for. The question had not been decided when

Mr. Williams left us. If he had not gone away on leave, there is but little doubt that he would have succeeded in having his way. But he went on leave, and Mr. Bright came to act for him. One of the first acts of the latter was to declare that it would be inadvisable to make the transfer. I think that it was fortunate that Mr. Bright held this view; but whether he was right or wrong, the fact remains that the policy of the permanent incumbent was upset. Again, we have been blamed by Mr. Risley with regard to the Warrant Department. This also forms one of the charges preferred against us by Mr. Risley. Let me explain. Our dues are collected by two Collectors who are remunerated by the allowance of commission on the collections made by each. Notices of demand are issued by the Collectors, and the Commissioners have thought that if warrants to realise the dues were allowed to be issued, before the expiry of the quarter, by the Collectors who are so much interested in the collections, there would be hardship, particularly as the debtors were entitled to the full quarter within which to pay. It has been the practice for the warrants, if necessary, to issue in the succeeding quarter. The preceding Chairmen had held a different view. Mr. Bright came into office, agreed with us in our objections, and intimated to the Government his support of the views held by the majority of the Commissioners. Here, again, right or wrong, there is a most pronounced disagreement from the policy of his predecessors, which also serves the useful purpose of answering Mr. Risley's charge."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said:—"I submit that the Hon'ble Member's motion is that the words 'the Chairman and' be omitted from section 6, and I cannot see that all this has any connection with it whatsoever."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"It will no doubt work itself out. Pray continue."

The Hon'ble Mr. APCAR said:—"I have no wish at all to submit questions which are irrelevant. My desire is to exclude the head of the Executive who is appointed by the Government from being the Chairman of the Corporation, and I am submitting illustrations in support of my contention, one of my reasons being that continuity of administration is broken under the present system. The intention of the section is quite clear, and I am combating the purpose embodied in it."

The Hon'ble Mr. BOLTON said:—"If the Hon'ble Member wishes the Chairman to be a mere figure-head, it does not matter whether the continuity is broken or not. He is not to be a working Chairman, but a figure-head as in Bombay."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT:—"We have had no explanation yet. Pray proceed, Mr. Apar."

The Hon'ble Mr. APCAR said:—"In Bombay the Chairman holds a very responsible position, and is not a mere figure-head. He is not an independent authority, and he is not the head of the Executive.

"Then when I come to Mr. Ritchie's tenure of office, I come to a most interesting subject, and I am glad of the opportunity of dealing with it, because it forms one of Mr. Risley's most serious charges in his reply in the debate in April, 1898. I refer to *bustee* improvements. Mr. Risley stated that the Government had directed the expenditure of the annual sum of one-and-a-half lakh of rupees for *bustee* improvement, and presented a table of expenditure to show that sums far short of this amount had been spent in the years 1889 to 1896. Now Government had directed the expenditure of the sum named, not for *bustee* improvement only, but for both the cleansing and the structural improvement of *bustees*, and Mr. Risley, in his hurry to throw blame on the Commissioners in every conceivable way, only too delighted to have something to say against the Commissioners, charged them with neglecting their duties and disregarding the directions of the Government, in spending sums far short of the amount required under the letter of the Government. I have done my best to discover how

much has been spent in *bustee* cleansing, but the system of accounts kept by the Executive has so far precluded discovery of this. But what is indisputably clear is that the expenditure that Mr. Risley so confidently relied upon to show that the Commissioners had failed in their duty was for structural improvement of *bustees* only, and did not include *bustee* cleansing, and what is also clear is that Mr. Risley had taken no pains to verify what he so confidently relied upon, and that even in *bustee* improvement a sum largely in excess of what Mr. Risley stated had been used. I will now place before the Council a letter from the Government of India, dated the 10th January, 1884, bearing the signature 'A. Mackenzie,' the Secretary in the Home Department at the time, and communicated to the Corporation by the Hon'ble Member now in charge of the Bill on behalf of the Local Government. The direction as to the amount to be expended was conveyed in this letter, and I ask the Council's special attention to the words of commendation used. In those days the Corporation were regarded to have done 'much excellent work.' Later, when they were doing infinitely better work, they were condemned in unmeasured language. The material portions of the letter are as follows:—

'The many important matters with which the report deals have been fully reviewed in this Resolution, and no further orders from the Government of India are called for. The Governor General in Council is glad to acknowledge that much excellent work has been done by the Calcutta Municipality during the year. In respect of sanitary improvement especially, the advance is very marked. All the remarks and suggestions contained in paragraph 17 of the Lieutenant-Governor's orders deserve their most careful attention. The sum of Rs. 1,50,000 per annum is the least sum which should, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, be set apart for the cleansing and structural improvement of the *bustees*.'

'Now let us see what is Mr. Ritchie's letter to Mr. Risley himself, when Secretary to the Local Government only so late as in 1895. The letter is dated 13th April of that year:—

'The third topic to which I wish to refer is that of town and *bustee* improvement.

'In paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter, comment is made upon the small amount recently expended under the heads of town and *bustee* improvement. The Commissioners must be absolved from blame in this matter, as the financial situation of the Corporation has precluded me from recommending higher expenditure on new projects under these heads in the town proper. It must be borne in mind that the well-known Harrison Road, the construction of which marks an era in Calcutta street improvement and abolished many *bustees* and is essentially a measure of town and *bustee* improvement, has been financed during the seven years from 1889-90 to 1895-96. I would invite attention to the table on page 4 of the Administration Report showing the gross expenditure up to 31st March, 1895, annually incurred on this project, and to the statement of expenditure and receipts on page 12 bringing the account up to 1st September, 1895, which shows that the net cost of the project has been Rs. 27,37,000. Thus there has been an average gross expenditure of upwards of 8 lakhs annually, and an average net expenditure of nearly 4 lakhs annually on town and *bustee* improvement in respect of this road alone during the past seven years.

'I would take this opportunity of saying that in my opinion the advantages obtained by the Corporation under the system known as the *bustee* procedure are inadequate to the expenditure incurred. That procedure was fully described on pages 7 and 8 of the Resolution on the Administration Report for 1892-93, and it was stated in paragraph 18 that "*bustee* schemes resolve themselves into this: that the *bustee* property is improved at the expense of the Commissioners, the owners merely giving up to the use of the public the land required for the roads." In some cases, as in Ram Bagan Lane and Sircar's Lane *bustees*, in Ward 6, the *bustee* huts are removed immediately on the roads being constructed, and *pukka* dwellings erected in their stead.

'I maintain that the preferable procedure is to acquire lands for substantial widths of roadway with surplus lands on the side to be resold at a profit, as has been done in the case of the Harrison Road in the town and the new roads in the Suburbs, namely, the Lansdowne Road, the Chetla Road and the new Kalighat Road now under construction. This procedure is simpler, it is freer from legal difficulties and the improvement effected is far greater. It is right to enforce the *bustee* procedure so far as it carried out the original intention of the Legislature. But when it comes to the Municipality spending large sums on the construction and sewerage of streets of very narrow dimensions, a practice which is strongly condemned by sanitary authorities, I think that their funds are misapplied, and that Government should hesitate to press upon the Commissioners expenditure from Municipal funds on *bustee* improvement of this sort.'

'The letter I have quoted speaks for itself. I shall have to refer to the point in a subsequent stage of our proceedings, so that I shall not dwell on it any further now, except to say again that Mr. Risley does not think fit to explain that

the Government included *bustee* cleansing in the expenditure of the sum that was mentioned. It will have been observed that Mr. Ritchie departed deliberately from the policy of his predecessors in regard to *bustee* improvement, and that he absolves the Commissioners from any blame in the matter.

"We next come to Mr. Lee, who succeeded Sir Henry Harrison, and again I can give an instance of a change from the plans of his predecessor—at least he failed to carry out an idea on which Sir Henry Harrison had laid some stress, and again I am able to refute another charge that Mr. Risley has brought. Sir Henry Harrison desired to institute a municipal *dhobikhana*; he obtained the sanction of the Commissioners for a Surveyor to go to Bombay, who was despatched and brought back plans, and the Commissioners sanctioned the necessary expenditure for the establishment of all that their Chairman asked for. At this juncture Sir Henry Harrison left the post, and his scheme was forgotten or laid aside by the Executive, and would not in all probability have been revived up to this day if it had not been for an elected Commissioner, who brought up the question I think in 1895, and the Commissioners again readily sanctioned the necessary expenditure, and a *dhobikhana* is to-day an accomplished fact. Here, again, we have another instance of Mr. Risley's extreme readiness to hurl charges against the Commissioners without verifying his facts and with no ground for his accusation. I have given only a few instances. Let the Government grant an enquiry, and many instances will be forthcoming, of the changes in consequence of the change in the office of Chairman, and also of schemes falling through owing to the same cause, and also when Heads of Departments go away. These are the grounds on which I ask the Council to consider the advisability of trying a change in the system of appointing the Chairman. Allow the Corporation to elect their own Chairman, and they will be able to make their own terms. And better still, and what would secure a continuity in the work of the administration, allow them to elect from their own body. When the Corporation have the control of their own business, they would elect from their own body a Chairman who would be intimately acquainted with the working of the administration and the history of questions. He would be well aware of the schemes on foot, and they would not lapse in the way that there is a tendency to do in the present system. When the Corporation will elect from their own body, it will be the Corporation who will be carrying their business forward, and they would be more likely to do so in a continuous manner. If there was a change, it would not be owing to the want of knowledge of an inexperienced Chairman of what had gone before, but it would be deliberately done after consideration of the subject. Again, Sir, can it be denied that no one is placed at the head of a business until he has served an apprenticeship in it? Sir Alexander Mackenzie, in his speech at Entally, said that even if an angel came from heaven, he could not perform the duties of Chairman satisfactorily. I have no knowledge of angels from heaven, but would any business man go to the Civil Service for a manager of his business? It would be presumptuous on my part to attempt to eulogise that service. Viceroy and statesmen of the highest rank have spoken of them in terms of well-merited praise, and I could not, even if I desired, which I do not, depreciate them. But their training and education do not fit them to take charge of a difficult and complex business like the administration of a popular and self-governing institution such as the Corporation of Calcutta. I would ask the Hon'ble Member for the Chamber if he would go to the Civil Service for a manager of a tea garden? He would as little like to see tea from that garden inside his cup as outside of it, if it were so managed. He would as little like to drink the tea manufactured from that garden as he would expect to see a dividend from tea manufactured there. Would any bank, any shipping or export or import firm go to the depths of the mufassal for a manager of any of their businesses? They surely would not do so. Then, why should it be expected that the only fit person to be the head of the difficult business of municipal administration is a junior member of the Civil Service, however promising he may be in his own line of official life? The task is too severe for any such officer, and the choice is not fair to the public. The plan I am submitting would not in any degree interfere with the functions of the head of the Executive. He still would be the head of the Executive, with the Executive authority assigned to him untouched. He

would then be in the position that would be most appropriate and suitable for him; for, deny it how we may, and in this Council I do not expect concurrence with me, official Chairmen with their training come to us invariably with their minds imbued with certain principles of office that they never lose, and so there is no independent judgment with regard to whatever may be done by the Executive who are placed subordinate to them. Supervision fails; criticism is, I may say, deprecated. Take an instance to illustrate my meaning, and it indicates the habits of thought that prevail. The Engineer, without the sanction or even knowledge of the Corporation, started most expensive and costly drainage works, with regard to which the Government sanction had under the law to be obtained, but which in the system under which we have been working had not been obtained, and this apparently has not been considered a serious matter by the Chairman. It is incredible that these things should be, but I am stating facts, and it is extraordinary the latitude that has been allowed to the Engineer by the Chairman. These circumstances show a grave condition enough, but what I particularly now desire to point attention to is an aspect of the question to show how the official mind regards questions that are brought up for discussion. Immediately I discovered that a new drainage scheme had been started, one of the first questions I raised was as to the alignment of one of the main drains. I by no means asserted that I was correct in my view, or that a better alignment than the one proposed by the Engineer could be found, but I was desirous that my proposal should be considered. The Engineer met me with the short assertion that my suggestion was simply impracticable. The reasons he gave, I believed, from his own old plans for the drainage scheme, could not be maintained, and I pressed that my suggestion should at least be considered by the General Committee. The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham then threw up his hands and eyes, and exclaimed how could we possibly go against the views of our official adviser. I pressed for consideration of my suggestion, and the Engineer then met me with a counter proposal that the question should be submitted to the Hon'ble Mr. Buckley, who is the adviser to the Local Government in Engineering questions. I only wanted that my proposal should be considered, and I readily agreed. The reply we received from the Government was in the nature of a snub; we were told to attend to the advice of our official adviser. Fortunately, at this period, our Engineer left, at the expiry of the term of his agreement with us. The Government lent to us one of their officers to carry on the work in the interval before a successor could be appointed. I again asked for my suggestion to be considered, and this officer frankly admitted that he could not say that it was impracticable. When our new Engineer arrived, he at once took up my suggestion. He thanked me for making it, and adopted it as being the preferable alignment, since it was the more economical, easier worked, and better and more practicable in every way. We are told that more motive power is wanted among the Commissioners. Why, the official Executive resent our intervention and try to block us if they can. This is not an enquiry, many instances could be discovered, but I have given two instances of this already in the course of the debates. I was unable for many years, as I have before described, to carry through the scheme of improvement relating to the opening out of a new road to Kalighat. And I have mentioned how the Local Government have not condescended even to reply to our letter asking that steps be taken to carry out the recommendations of their own Building Commission for opening out the congested parts of the town. I now have given, I think, sufficient reasons for a change in the system of appointing the head of the Executive to be the Chairman of the Corporation. If the Government so desire it, let the choice be limited to a member of their service; but allow the Corporation their choice and let not the head of the Executive be *ex officio* Chairman of the Corporation."

The Hon'ble Mr. BAKER said:—"I do not propose to follow the Hon'ble Member through the large mass of entirely irrelevant details with which he has favoured us. It seems to me, Sir, that not less than four-fifths of the time occupied by the Hon'ble Member was spent in dealing with matters which, in my humble judgment, have no connection whatever with the amendments now before the Council. But there are two matters with which he dealt to which

I will briefly refer. He was pleased to be very sarcastic at the expense of the Civilian Chairman of the Corporation, and he stated very plainly that he would prefer that the Corporation should have a free hand to choose their Chairman from outside the ranks of that service. Sir, if the Hon'ble Member would look forward to section 10 (*now* section 11) of the Bill, he would find it provides that the Local Government may appoint *any fit person* to be Chairman. There is not one word from first to last in this Bill to show that the Local Government is restricted in its choice of the Chairman either to the Civil Service or to the Bar or to the Public Works Department, or to any branch of its own service whatsoever. Then, Sir, he said a good deal about the want of continuity in the office of Chairman, and he said that if we had in Calcutta a system, which I understand he means to be that of Bombay, that there would be no such breach of continuity; at all events that the breaches of continuity would be less frequent. He proposes, I understand, that there should be a head of the Executive in Calcutta corresponding to the official who is known in Bombay as Municipal Commissioner, and that the Corporation should appoint their President, I presume in the same way as the Bombay Corporation appoints its President. The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton intervened to point out in a very proper way that in Bombay the President is only a figure-head. He is not a real working officer at all, and therefore, it is of no importance one way or the other whether there is continuity in his appointment or not. But, as a matter of fact, the breaches of continuity in the office of President of the Bombay Corporation are infinitely greater than the breaches of continuity in Calcutta, for, if the Hon'ble Member refers to the Bombay Act, he will find that a fresh President has to be chosen every year. If the President resigns or retires during the course of the year, or dies, then another President has to be chosen for the remainder of that period. If he were to look through the records of the Bombay Corporation, he would find that for every breach in the continuity of the appointment here, there are not less than two in Bombay.

"But, Sir, all this is by the way. I should now like to deal fully with what I understand to be the real proposal of the Hon'ble Member. The proposal is in part incorporated in his amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10,* which by arrangement are to be taken along with this amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I beg my hon'ble friend's pardon. I did not object to these amendments coming after the amendment I have moved, and I have not touched on them. I, however, am quite willing that they should be taken up at any time."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"I did understand that the Hon'ble Member would in his speech upon the item which we are now discussing disclose the whole of his own particular scheme, but I may have been mistaken. If he will explain in detail and completely all that he wishes to impress upon the Council in regard to these several motions, I think the Council would prefer that the whole and complete statement of the Hon'ble Member's scheme should be before it in deciding on that scheme in votes on individual items of the programme."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I should be glad to fall in with any wish Your Honour may express, but those matters are distinct from what I have got to say with regard to amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10*."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I would prefer that the Hon'ble Member should deal with amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10*."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON said:—"These amendments hang together. It is perfectly clear that the Hon'ble Member's object is to introduce the Bombay system into Calcutta. Let him, therefore, place his whole scheme before the Council."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I have got some amendments also ; at any rate one of these amendments has nothing to do with the scheme which my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar has laid before the Council."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"It is a great disadvantage to the Council that we have to discuss and consider these things in what I might call a jerky fashion, to move from point to point without clear ideas of what it is the Hon'ble Member wish to impress upon the Council. I think it would be an advantage if the Hon'ble Member would now disclose the whole of his scheme, and then we can vote upon individual items."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"The Hon'ble Members treat the question as if they know more than I myself do as to my meaning in moving the previous amendments that stand in my name. I have got no scheme that involves those other points. With regard to amendment No. 3*, I ask that all through in this Bill wherever the expressions 'Chairman' and 'Chairman of the Corporation' occur the expressions 'Commissioner' and 'Municipal Commissioner' be respectively substituted. He may be termed Municipal Commissioner; still he would be none the less qualified to be Chairman, if the Council so determine. I think myself that the expression 'Chairman of the Corporation' is an appropriate term under the present Act, for this reason: he is a member of the Corporation with other members, all of whom have got Executive functions. He is head of the Executive, it is true, and he has got in practice wider powers as head of the Executive than even under the present Bill is permitted him, but his distinctive character in the Corporation, as it now exists, is that he is Chairman of the Corporation; so that when you call him Chairman of the Corporation you define him at once. Here, so far as the scheme of this Bill is concerned, he is to be the head of the Executive as an independent co-ordinate authority. There is no reason why he should be called Chairman of the Corporation any more than that he should be called President of the General Committee. If he is called Chairman of the Corporation it does not distinguish his functions in any way. The designation only would refer to that which is the least portion of his duties. As President of the General Committee, he has got many more difficult and more important duties. Why then not call him President of the General Committee? And, therefore, in these circumstances, it seems to me the more appropriate designation would be 'Municipal Commissioner'."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"It was arranged in the beginning that these amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10,* which are a matter of nomenclature, should stand over until we came to the substantive amendment on which they depended. You suggested, Sir, that the Hon'ble Member should disclose his whole case, but, as I understand him, he is not doing so. He is simply treating those three amendments as if they were still pure matters of nomenclature and as if we had not yet come to the substantive amendment."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Meanwhile, we are only talking about designations."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I wish to meet the wishes of the Hon'ble Member, and I do not mean, I may inform him, to make any insidious attempt to get round any particular section by anticipating discussion. I have been simply trying to do what I have thought the Hon'ble Member himself desired. With regard to the term 'Councillor' I say, since the members of the Corporation have no Executive duties, and it is a term that is applied in Bombay, and is a recognised term to describe members of municipal administrations, it seems to me that it would be more appropriate under this Act to call them Councillors, and then when I come to the third amendment, No. 10,* to call those three, the Corporation, the General Committee, and the Chairman of the Corporation co-ordinate authorities, seems to me to be a contradiction in terms, for immediately you call one of the three Chairman of the Corporation, the co-ordinate aspect is gone. I repeat, Sir, if the Legislature is desirous of

maintaining the head of the Executive as Chairman, it seems to me a more appropriate term that when we talk about three co-ordinate authorities, instead of calling him 'Chairman of the Corporation,' he should be distinguished 'the Municipal Commissioner.' The designation 'Commissioner' is given to officers of Government who perform Executive duties, and I am only carrying out this idea in proposing that the head of the Municipal Executive should be called Municipal Commissioner."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I submit that Your Honour's directions were that it would be convenient to the Council if the Hon'ble Member stated his whole scheme. Now it is quite plain that he has not done so. His actual scheme, as I understand it, is embodied in the amendments which are numbered 16,* 25, 26,† 39 and 53.‡ I am prepared to reply upon those if the Hon'ble Member will state his scheme, otherwise it does not appear to me that I have anything to reply to."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON said:—"That the Hon'ble Member has a scheme is evident from his amendments 25 and 26,† and I find in the margin of these amendments that he quotes the Bombay Act. He proposes to have a President as in Bombay, and he also proposes that the Commissioner shall occupy the same position as that officer in Bombay. I assume, therefore, that he desires to ask the Council to introduce the Bombay scheme."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I have been called upon to move a certain amendment, and I am doing so."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I think it might be better to treat the amendments Nos 3, 4 and 10* as if they were a question of principle, and let the vote of the Council be taken upon them. If the vote of the Council is adverse to the Hon'ble Member on these three amendments, a number of the later amendments must be ruled out of order."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I can only say that it has never occurred to me to put those forward as amendments in which any principle is involved, otherwise I should have been open to the charge that I find is still lurking in my hon'ble friend's mind, and I regret to find that he cannot get rid of, that it was an insidious attempt to anticipate future discussion."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"May I be permitted to say a word, and it is this:—If amendment No. 16* and the other amendments which hang together are put and lost *ipso facto*, the preliminary amendments will be lost."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"The Hon'ble Member (Mr. Apar) must surely see that the whole Council is waiting with interest and anxiety to know what it is that he wants us to do. The change of names, or the alteration of the nomenclature, of the officials of the Municipality, is a very small and insignificant matter, but it is quite apparent from the subsequent amendments, which the Hon'ble Member is going to move, that they are really part and parcel of a large and important scheme; and, until we know what that large and important scheme is, it seems to me useless to dispose of preliminary questions of this kind. The idea that I had, and that I venture to think the Council had, was that when we did come to discuss one important point of principle, as to whether the Chairman should or should not be a member of the constitution of the Corporation, we should then have a definite statement from the Hon'ble Member as to what the scheme was that he proposed to substitute for that in the Bill. If the Hon'ble Member chooses again to postpone his amendment No. 16,* as well as those which have preceded it, until we come to the question of principle in amendment No. 25,† I am perfectly prepared to agree to that adjustment, but what I want to impress upon him is that the first thing

* Printed on page 1919, *ante*.

† Amendments Nos. 25 and 29 are printed on page 1940, *post*.

‡ For amendments Nos. 39 and 53, see the last foot-note on page 1910, *ante*.

to be done is to have the whole of his particular proposal exposed and disclosed to us. Until we have that and we know what it is that he wants of us, the disposal of these preliminary matters is of no value whatsoever."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I certainly do not accept the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee's ideas as correct. I again repeat that there is absolutely no principle involved in amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10.* Surely my disclaimer ought to be accepted. I have never intended that any principle shall be involved, and even if they are passed in their entirety, the section as amended will not affect my further amendments. My argument is that if you pass these amendments hereafter, and let the Bill stand as it does, the term 'Chairman of the Corporation' does not describe the functions of the head of the Executive."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"The Hon'ble Member will understand that I and the whole Council are anxious to assist him. Our object is not to dispose of preliminary items without understanding what it is the Hon'ble Member has at the back of them. If the Hon'ble Member prefers that we should vote upon this as his scheme, I am quite prepared to put these particular items to the votes of the Council."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I submit the burden does not lie on me. If amendment 25† is not called on for discussion, how can I bring it forward? I think that amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10* can be put now and disposed of. It does not in any way affect amendment No. 16.*"

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"The Hon'ble Member is a judge of his own case. I leave it to him."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I repeat that I have no intention in any way of anticipating the result of any discussion with regard to amendments Nos. 16* and 25†. I repeat that my proposals do not affect, in my view, these other sections. It is merely for the purpose of providing whether the head of the Executive is hereafter to be called 'Chairman of the Corporation' or 'Municipal Commissioner'."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I am not quite sure, Sir, what has been the decision. Are we to speak upon Nos. 16* and 25†?"

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"No, not on amendment No. 25†."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I am quite prepared to postpone amendment No. 16*, and take it with amendment No. 25†. Amendments Nos. 3, 4, and 10* are distinct."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"If the Hon'ble Member would take Nos. 16* and 25† together, and let them be discussed and voted on, then after that decision, Nos. 3, 4 and 10* might be voted on."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"I do not wish to incommode the Hon'ble Member in any way, and it is now for him to say whether he would like the votes of the Council taken at once on amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10*, or whether he would like to speak upon the principle in amendments Nos. 16* and 25†."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"My view is this: that the votes on amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10* should be taken now and disposed of."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Has the Hon'ble Member anything further to say upon amendments Nos. 3, 4 and 10*?"

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"I have said all that I have to say."

* Printed on page 1919, ante.

† Printed on page 1940, post.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"The new designations proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar may be suitable to the Bombay system, but they are distinctly not suitable to the system which it is proposed in the Bill to retain and develop in Calcutta."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"With Your Honour's permission, I would like to say a few words in reply to the observations of the Hon'ble Mr. Baker to the effect that we are having the Bombay system introduced and ingrafted upon our system. Some salient features of that system have been incorporated in our system. That being so, it seems to me a distinct advantage that we should borrow the nomenclature of the Bombay system. It seems to me also that as regards item 10*, the amendment that is suggested there is an amendment which does not only involve a question of nomenclature, but it goes much further than that—it is an amendment which involves a question of principle. My friend the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar will move, if the last amendment be lost, that for the words 'a Chairman of the Corporation,' the words 'a Municipal Commissioner' be substituted. 'Chairman of the Corporation' would be used in the way that expression is understood at the present moment—the President of the Corporation. And there we join issue with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. The whole of our contention is, at the present moment, pending the decision of the Council, that the President of the Corporation should be an individual different from the head of the Executive of the Corporation, and, therefore, if you say 'Chairman of the Corporation' you pledge yourself, you commit yourself to the principle that the head of the Executive is also to be the President of the Corporation. I do not think, Sir, we have arrived as yet at that stage in the discussion where you are in a position to accept that as a definite principle; and I have serious objection to this Council accepting by anticipation a nomenclature which might bind the Council to a principle in regard to which the vote of the Council has not yet been obtained. If you say that he shall be the Chairman, you mean that he is to be the President of the Corporation. We have not yet decided as to whether he shall be President of the Corporation. That is a matter yet to be determined, and many of us have got something to say with regard to it. The Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie has got a long speech, and I want to hear others. I vote for my hon'ble friend's amendment, and I repeat if you have the Bombay system, let us have it in its entirety. It is much better to have the genuine article than a hybrid—something between the two is entirely repugnant to my views."

The Hon'ble MR. BOLTON said:—"The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar wishes our Chairman to be designated 'Commissioner' and our Commissioners 'Councillors,' and he protests that his proposal is unconnected with his later amendments. If so, what is the necessity for the change? Why should the name of Chairman of the Corporation, which has been used for thirty or forty years, be now altered? I am unable, however, to accept the view that no special meaning attaches to the present amendments, because the new designation of the Chairman is subsequently introduced in amendments which go to make material alterations in the constitution of the Corporation as set out in the Bill, that is, amendments Nos. 25 and 26.† We are to substitute for the Chairman a President, and a 'Commissioner' is to be introduced in Calcutta corresponding to the Executive Commissioner of Bombay. As the Hon'ble Member, however, desires his amendments to be treated as a mere question of nomenclature, I will record my vote against them, on the ground that no reason whatever exists for the proposed change."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton has said that the thing has continued so long, therefore let it continue, but I wish him to understand that things are to be different: what there has been before is not to be in the future: there is going to be a distinct change in the Bill, and I say it would be more appropriate to call the Chairman 'Municipal Commissioner'; and, considering that we have got three co-ordinate authorities, they should be

* Printed on page 1919, ante.

† Printed on page 1940, post.

separate and distinct. That is my contention, and I repeat that, so far as I am concerned, my intention is not in any degree to anticipate the decision of amendments Nos. 16* and 25†."

The amendments Nos. 3, 4, and 10* were then severally put and lost.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR then formally moved amendment No. 16, *namely* that in section 6 the words "the Chairman and" be omitted.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Has the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill got anything to say about amendments Nos. 16* and 25†?"

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I understood the arrangement was that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar would now deal with amendments Nos. 16* and 25† together. I shall reserve what I have to say until we come to amendment No. 25.†"

The Hon'ble MR. OLDHAM said:—"I should like to say a few words in reply to the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar. He began as well as I remember by saying that he would call a spade a spade, but I really think he has called the spade something like a twenty-thousand horse-power excavator. I must deprecate the exaggeration which has been used in his speech. Referring to the Chairman, I have taken down the following passages: 'The Chairman can do anything in the Corporation; he can alter his predecessor's policy; each change is followed by a complete reversal.' I do not believe that any member of the Corporation will seriously endorse any of these expressions. Mr. Greer was particularly referred to by the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar. I was in the most intimate association with Mr. Greer during the whole time that he conducted that office, and I was repeatedly consulted by him. I know there was a little difficulty about the Rs. 60,000 which was referred to by Mr. Apcar. It was a pure oversight and was the fault of Mr. Greer's office; otherwise, I can vouch for the fact that Mr. Greer's constant policy was to take the Commissioners into his complete confidence and to wait on the Commissioners before carrying out any single thing. I remember that on one occasion Mr. Greer visited a slaughter-house or gowkhana. He was very much dissatisfied with the state of it, and he passed an emergent order. I remember he was seriously taken to task by the Commissioners for exceeding his authority in ordering changes involving considerable expenditure for which there had been no provision and without first consulting his colleagues, and I venture to say that Mr. Greer never made a mistake of a similar sort again. Before he left them he had earned the approbation as well as the affection of the Commissioners."

The Hon'ble MR. MACKENZIE said:—"The Hon'ble Mr. Apcar made a reference to me in his speech and referred to the management of tea-gardens and tea-cups. I shall not endeavour to follow him in these matters; but in regard to his amendment, I oppose the motion that the Chairman should not be a member of the Corporation and should not preside at meetings: he should occupy a similar position to that of the Municipal Commissioner in Bombay.

"In my opinion the Chairman ought to occupy the position of a Managing Director of a commercial concern, and should invariably be a member of the General Committee, which corresponds to a Board of Directors, and he should always preside. Any other arrangement would lead to waste of time, to loss of power, and possibly to friction."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"My hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill began his observations by deprecating the irrelevant remarks which Mr. Apcar made in connection with this Bill. I am sorry to have to say that if Mr. Apcar's criticisms were irrelevant, the criticisms of my hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill are exposed to the same objection. I think, Sir, we have been drifting away very considerably from the position which the amendment opens out. The whole question at issue is this: whether the

* Printed on page 1919, *ante*.

† Printed on page 1940, *post*.

Chairman is to be a member of the Corporation or not : Is he to be one of the deliberative body known as the Corporation, or is he to stand outside the Corporation ? And in discussing this simple issue we are led to the other question as to the election of the Chairman ; and here again, Sir, the spectre of confusion seems to haunt us. There was considerable confusion in the blending up of the two offices: the 'Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation' and the 'Municipal Commissioner of Bombay.' Sir, the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill made the remark that if the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation is changed very often, the President of the Bombay Corporation is changed also very often. As a matter of fact, the two things are totally different. The Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation holds a position very different from that of the President of the Bombay Corporation. The President of the Bombay Corporation may be a figure-head, but he is a very brilliant and distinguished figure-head. He is pre-eminently the first citizen of the first city in the Indian Empire. He receives the Viceroy when the Viceroy lands in India; he bids adieu to the Viceroy when the Viceroy leaves India. He may indeed be a figure-head. I am sure the Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie would like to be a figure-head of that description. The President of the Bombay Corporation is a figure-head in this sense, but at the same time he performs important functions. He is the guide, the preceptor, and leader of the Corporation; he presides at the meetings of the Corporation; he regulates the proceedings; he has a casting vote in case of equality of votes. To compare him with the Executive head of the Calcutta Corporation, my friend will permit me to say, is a comparison which will not stand the test of scrutiny."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"That is the very comparison which the Hon'ble Member the mover of the amendment made."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"What I wanted to say in this connection is this: that this is the first of a series of amendments in regard to which my hon'ble friend Mr. Apcar and myself have given notice. The object is to incorporate, so far as we can incorporate, the Bombay system into the Calcutta system. We have suggested that the Chairman shall not be the President of the Corporation; we begin by saying that he shall not be a member of the Corporation. Having said that he is not to be a member of the Corporation, we provide later on that the Corporation is to elect its own President; in other words, he is not in any way to be connected with the Corporation as a member or as President. We have heard a great deal about this Bombay system. The essence of the Bombay system is this: the complete separation of the deliberative from the executive body. The executive body stands apart from the deliberative body, and the deliberative body when it comes in contact with the executive body promptly brings it into a position of subordination. On the other hand, the essence of our system is the complete assimilation, the blending up of the two. Therefore, the object of amendment 25* on the paper is, so far as practicable, to assimilate the Calcutta system to the Bombay system. Therefore, the first amendment, proceeding on these lines, is that the 'Chairman shall not be a member of the Corporation.' If you accept that proposition, we say that the Corporation shall elect its own President, and that further the General Committee shall elect its own President, and if we accept those amendments, we have that complete separation of the executive and deliberative bodies which is the essence of the Bombay system. In the Bombay Act there is a section which enables the Corporation to call for any statement regarding the affairs of the Municipality and pass Resolutions with regard to any such statement; in other words, the power of criticism, the power of supervision extending over the entire domain of municipal administration, is given to the Corporation. They have co-ordinate authorities, but separate and distinct from each other. Have you got anything approaching that here? And it is, because, Sir, we have not got here that safeguard, that my hon'ble friend Mr. Apcar and I have thought it our duty to suggest the acceptance of those provisions of the Bombay Act which will ensure to the Corporation here that supremacy which the Bombay Corporation.

* Printed on page 1940, post.

enjoys, and which has made that Corporation the success that it is. Therefore, Sir, in all earnestness, with all the emphasis that I can command as one whose life has been passed in the cause of Local Self-Government, I beg Your Honour to consider whether it is not desirable, in the interests of that Local Self-Government which this Council is apparently anxious to maintain, that we should assimilate our system to those portions of the Bombay system which alone can conduce to its sound and efficient working."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee has discussed the very questions of principle into which the hon'ble mover of the amendment refused to enter. I therefore ask permission to reply to him."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"I have particularly asked the Hon'ble Mr. Aparcar whether he wished a discussion upon the entire scheme to take place now in the discussion upon the motion which stands as No. 16,* or whether the question of principle should be deferred until we come to motion No. 25.† The Hon'ble Member said that he wished this particular item to be discussed as it was, and he declined to make any further statement of his scheme when I asked him if he had anything more to say. Up to the present all that we have had from the Hon'ble Member, the mover of the present motion, is that he thinks it would be a good plan for the Municipal Commissioners to elect their own President. We have heard nothing about the further development of his scheme which has been disclosed in the very interesting and eloquent speech of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee. The plan upon which we have been proceeding is a plan in which I have subjected my own ideas, as to the propriety of the discussion, largely to the personal wishes of the Hon'ble Mr. Aparcar. I venture to think that we shall avoid confusion if we do adopt the plan which I originally suggested: that we have now a discussion upon the main principle which is put before us for our acceptance. If the Hon'ble Mr. Aparcar, after hearing the speech of his colleague, the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, is prepared now to go on with his statement in his own words and in his own fashion of the principle which he proposes to us, then the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will be able to speak properly. I put it to the Hon'ble Member to take whichever course his own discretion and judgment lead him to think proper."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"So far as I am concerned I would have had no hesitation whatsoever, if the amendments had been put in the way Your Honour now suggests, in acceding to any discussion on those lines. I have now very little more to say in the matter, because I have already dealt with the main points. I have no wish to dwell upon points which have been already impressed upon the Council. I of course shall have a reply. I am quite willing that this amendment No. 25† should be taken with amendment No. 16*."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee very correctly pointed out that this amendment is the first of a series of amendments the effect of which is to bring about an entire and radical change in the position and status of the Chairman. In this amendment‡ it is proposed to declare that the Chairman shall not be a member of the Corporation. In the Hon'ble Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee's amendment of section 10 (now 11)§ it is proposed that the Corporation shall elect their own President, and in one of his amendments of section 8 (now 9)|| it is further proposed that the General Committee shall elect their own President. So that the Chairman would not be a member of either of the two bodies—the Corporation or the General Committee. The avowed object with which these proposals have been brought forward is to introduce the Bombay system into the Calcutta Corporation. I say the avowed object, because it would be easy to show by going through the Bill and the amendments in detail that that object has not been

* Printed on page 1919, ante.

† Printed on page 1940, post.

‡ i.e., amendment No. 16, which is printed on page 1919, ante.

§ i.e., amendment No. 56. It was withdrawn at the meeting held on the 11th September, 1899.

|| i.e., amendment No. 45. It was withdrawn at the meeting held on the 11th September, 1899.

carried out at all, or only in an imperfect manner. The position of the Chairman, if the amendments that have been moved were carried, would be very different from and distinctly inferior to the position of the Municipal Commissioner as it is under the Bombay Act.

"In the first place with reference to these amendments I would point out that they are not compatible with the principles which the Select Committee and this Council have adopted in framing the constitution and settling the details of the Bill. The Chairman is one of the three co-ordinate authorities who are charged with the municipal government of the town; and the Select Committee, in deciding what particular functions of every kind should be assigned to the Chairman, have proceeded throughout on the understanding that that officer will continue to hold the same position that he does now as President both of the Corporation and of the General Committee. If we are now going to change this, if we are going to declare that he is not to be the President of the General Committee and not to be President of the Corporation, to have no right to vote or to move Resolutions at meetings of those bodies, then it will be necessary for us to go through the Bill again, section by section, in order to see what changes it would be necessary to introduce to meet that altered position. Now, Sir, that is work which cannot possibly be done by this Council as a whole; it can only be done by the Select Committee. Therefore the first effect of adopting the Hon'ble Member's amendment would be that this Council would have to adjourn; it would have to remit the Bill back to the Select Committee, and there would be no possibility of disposing of it during the present Session. That alone is a sufficient reason I think why this amendment No. 16* and all the following amendments should be rejected.

"But, Sir, there is far more to be said about it than this. I am not disposed to deny that the Bombay system in some respects is a good and workable one, and in some particulars I think it is a better system than the system which we have or are going to have in Calcutta. I refer in particular to the exclusive power of making all municipal appointments which in Bombay rests with the Municipal Commissioner. In Bombay the Municipal Commissioner has the sole and exclusive control of the municipal establishments of every grade and description, with the sole exception of the Engineer, the Health Officer, the Secretary and the Secretary's clerks. In those respects I think the Bombay system is distinctly in advance of the system which we have now or the system under the Bill. But, Sir, there are also some defects in the Bombay system; and perhaps the most conspicuous defect in that system is the extreme length to which it goes in separating the executive authority from the other two authorities. Exactly the same defect is to be found in the American Constitution, where neither the President of the United States nor any of his Cabinet Ministers have seats or the right of speech in either House of Congress. The framers of the American Constitution introduced this restriction for precisely the same reasons for which the Hon'ble Members wish to introduce it here, namely, to safeguard the independence of the deliberative body, and to prevent the Executive from usurping an undue preponderance of power. The evils which have flowed from this unfortunate separation in America, the lack of motive power, the lowering of the status of Congress itself, and the total absence of organization or business-like methods in their proceedings have been clearly traced by Professor Bryce, in his standard work on the American Commonwealth. The same evils have manifested themselves on a smaller scale in Bombay; and similar causes will assuredly produce similar results in Calcutta. What we should seek to do is to link these three authorities together, the Chairman, the General Committee, and the Corporation: and unquestionably the best way of doing so is to cause the Chairman to preside at meetings both of the General Committee and of the Corporation. If we do not do so, the initiative of the Chairman will be destroyed, or at all events weakened, and schemes in which all are interested will drag, because there is no one to push them. The legitimate influence of the Corporation and of the General Committee over the Chairman will be weakened. They will correspond with him formally, there will be a great waste of time, and

responsibility will be frittered away. And, Sir, there is another drawback to the system which prevails in Bombay to which the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee made no allusion: it is that it tends to throw very great and irresponsible power into the hands of the Municipal Secretary. In Bombay the President is a non-official gentleman elected from year to year. He is not a whole-time officer, he is not a salaried officer. He is, to use an expression we have heard to-day, an ornamental figure-head. He corresponds more or less to the position of the Mayor of an English town. In English towns the whole of the work is really done by the Town Clerk. He is a highly paid and highly qualified expert. The Town Clerk of the City of London draws a salary of £3,500 a year; in Glasgow he gets nearly the same; in Liverpool he draws £2,000 a year. That is the class of officer by whom the work is actually done. In order that business may be efficiently conducted, it is essential that the President of the body which conducts it should be thoroughly familiar with the details of the business to be done, and it is hopeless to expect that a non-official gentleman who has his own business to do, whose time is very fully occupied, and who probably regards the conduct of details as a matter beneath his dignity, should ever find time or go to the trouble to attend to them. The result will be that the Secretary, the only salaried official whose duty it is to put the papers up before the meeting on each occasion, will gradually absorb a large amount of power for which he is not qualified either by salary or status."

The Hon'ble BABU BOIKANTA NATH SEN said:—"With Your Honour's permission I would like to make a few remarks. When the Bill was originally introduced three distinct authorities were intended to be created. Having read the Bill it seems to me that to call the three authorities co-ordinate authorities is rather a misnomer, because they are not independent in themselves. The three are linked together in such a way that one depends upon the other to a certain extent, even so far that I find that one of the sections provides that the General Committee is to hear appeals against certain action and orders by the Chairman. I believe there is a certain section to that effect—section 314A (now 327). Now the question is, if the original intention at the time of the introduction of the Bill was to create these three separate authorities, and if that has not been found practicable or feasible or wise, can it be called sound legislation to have these three bodies again constituted in such a way as to give rise to further complications; would not a distinct object be gained if the Corporation consists of the Commissioners only, devoid of the Chairman? Let there be a Chairman with his authorities, privileges and duties, and the General Committee and the Corporation with its members only, they being free to elect their own Chairman. I believe it would minimise to a certain extent the difficulties and complications which might be created, and would avoid discord and friction. It is not my purpose to go over the Bombay Act, and the Hon'ble Member in charge of this Bill has admitted that if that Act had been accepted for Calcutta some of its provisions would have been found better suited and some otherwise. But I would ask Your Honour to consider the case of the other municipalities in Bengal. It will be said that there cannot be any comparison between mufassal municipalities and the Calcutta Municipality. It is quite true that in every respect there cannot be any comparison between the Calcutta Municipality and the other mufassal municipalities, but where there is a principle found to be efficacious, based on sound legislation, and found to be sound in respect of these mufassal municipalities, that principle, I submit, ought also to be considered as being a sound one in respect of the Calcutta Municipality. In most of the one hundred and fifty mufassal municipalities—I think in round numbers there are about that number—the Chairman is elected by the Commissioners themselves. Of course there are nominated members. The Chairman is appointed by Government in certain cases, but in most cases the Commissioners themselves are allowed the freedom of electing their own Chairman. Here, again, when these different authorities are created, the Chairman of the Commissioners or the President of the Commissioners would be the head of the consultative body. The attempt of the Bill is to disintegrate and separate the executive functions from the administrative functions. If the Commissioners

themselves have their own figure-head, he will no doubt help them in their deliberations, and no possible difficulty would arise if they be allowed the option of electing their own Chairman."

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR said:—"There have been observations made that force me to make a reply. I must apologise to you, Sir, for making you a *particeps criminis* in the waste of time here. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill makes the charge that there has been irrelevant matter introduced which has taken up four-fifths of our time. I fear, Sir, that it is to the President of this Council the blame must attach for having permitted so much irrelevant matter to be discussed. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill, it seems to me, thinks that anything is irrelevant which is spoken contrary to his own ideas, and I feel bound to say that if the Hon'ble Member had left the business to take its ordinary course in this Council, there would have been a great deal of time saved. With regard to what the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill said in respect of the power given to the Government to appoint any fit and proper person to be Chairman as being an answer to my objection, he has missed the point of my contention entirely. My point is this: I say let the Corporation elect for themselves. If they are not fit to elect their Chairman, then I think they are not fit to be entrusted with any powers at all. I would further observe that, as I already have said, the Government has no idea of appointing any person outside their own service. Again, as regards continuity being destroyed, the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has entirely missed what I wished, at all events, to explain. It is this: When we have Chairman after Chairman coming into the Corporation as its head who before has had no connection with a popular representative form of government, who does not know the working of a municipality, he has got to be guided for some time by experienced Commissioners in the General Committee, so that he gradually learns his business. On the other hand, if we have a President elected from among our own body, a Commissioner would be elected who had been serving for some time in the Corporation; he would be familiar with the business of the Corporation and acquainted with the past history of questions that may arise. Because the period of office is one year, as under the Bombay system, it does not follow that he could serve for one year only. The same Commissioner would be eligible for re-election, and even if a different Chairman was elected from the Corporation annually, we would have a more continuous policy than, from the actual circumstances of the present method, can ever be obtained, because it would in effect be the Corporation who would be carrying on the business and not a stranger transplanted from the mufassal.

"I hope, Sir, it will not be thought that I intended to attack any person. I was very sorry to mention any name at all. I would have been very glad to have been able to omit names. I was forced to mention names; you will remember, Sir, that I almost apologised for doing so. I repeat again that I did not in any degree mean to attack any individual, but I was attacking the system. It is only adding point to my argument that the matters that I have referred to were done in ignorance. I never suggested that the Chairman whom my hon'ble friend mentioned would have done deliberately what I have given as an illustration in support of my contention. I have assumed that he acted in ignorance, and I have expressly so stated in what I have before written and said on the subject, as my hon'ble friend must be aware. If I have been inaccurate in any statement, it is open to the Hon'ble Member to correct me.

"Again, in the Verandah question, the Chairman's motion was beaten. What did he do? He sent out a whip, brought all his supporters again, and carried his motion. Any matter that he desires to carry he can carry, if he chooses."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Gentlemen, we come now to a conclusion on one of the most important issues that will be probably put before us in the whole course of this discussion, and I should like therefore myself to sum up the debate in a very few words. There appear to be before us in the speeches

that have been delivered two issues: one is that the Chairman of the Corporation should be elected by the Corporation. The other is that the Chairman or the Executive official of the Corporation should be entirely outside and independent of the corporate body.

"On the first question you have to remember that a large amount of appeal has been made to the Bombay precedent. You know there that the Executive authority is not appointed by the Corporate body. He is appointed by Government, and not by the Municipal Commissioners, and, therefore, in this matter the Bill only follows that precedent to which appeal has been expressly made; but further I have to remind the Council that the Bill directly and clearly states that the Chairman to be appointed by the Government shall be a person whom the Government consider to be a fit and proper person. The Bill does not say that the person who is to be appointed Chairman of the Corporation shall be a member of the Civil Service. I hope heartily that it shall not fall to my lot in my term of office to appoint a Chairman. You could not have a better man than you have at present; but if, unfortunately, a vacancy should occur, you may rely upon it that my Government will, in discharging their very responsible duty, select the man whom they consider to be the most fit and proper person, irrespective of any service trammels.

"Now I come to the second point, as to whether the Chairman should or should not be a member of the Corporation. If anything could have moved me in a matter of that kind, it would have been the eloquent, earnest and almost pathetic appeal of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee; but my mind upon that point is absolutely and perfectly clear. The Hon'ble Member appealed to experience. So do I, and I illustrate my opinion on this matter by two analogies: the first is that of the District Boards. In 1882 and 1883, when I was in the North-Western Provinces, I was member of a Committee that sat under the orders of the Lieutenant-Governor to consider what were the best means of carrying out that great scheme in the rural parts of the country, and the first, and perhaps the most important, point that was put before us for decision was this: shall the control of the Collector in the districts be from within or from without? And every member of that Committee gave an opinion except one, and that one was the most acute and the most astute native adviser that we had at that time in the North-Western Provinces. His name is well-known to some of you—Raja Shiva Persad, of Benares, and when he alone was left to speak, the whole meeting turned to see what he had to say. He said: 'I will tell you my opinion by a parable. Put twelve coolies to a rope to pull a cart, and they are all right as long as the twelve are pulling together, but take one of those coolies out and put him on the cart with a long whip, and the remaining eleven do not like it.' Now the experience of control from within of the Collector over his District Board is absolutely in favour of the plan of having the executive and the corporate body together. No one will deny that that adjustment has, as Raja Shiva Pershad predicted, answered to the advantage of all concerned. Now I shall give you another, and I hope a still better instance, and that is my own. Here I stand before you, President of this deliberative body, and at the same time I am the head of the Executive of this Province. I can conceive nothing more inexpedient and more inadvisable than that my connection with this Council should be severed. From this Council the Lieutenant-Governor receives constant support, help, advice, and, indeed it may be, check, if his measures are ill-advised. I consider that, so far from its being an advantage to separate the executive and deliberative authorities as my hon'ble friends Mr. Apcar and Babu Surendranath Banerjee have recommended, there could be nothing more injurious than to separate the one from the other. Each gathers from the other experience and suggestions which no other connection that I know of yields. It is for this reason that the members of the Government of England are associated with the Houses of Parliament, and it is for this reason that I am positive that, in the interests of the city and in the interests of every good work undertaken in it, its Chairman should not be severed from the Corporation."

The amendment No. 16* was then put and lost.

SECTION 6.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT ruled the following motion, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, to be out of order:—

That in section 6 for the word "fifty" the words "sixty-four" be substituted.

SECTION 5.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"Amendment No. 11* disappears in consequence of the decision on amendment No. 16.†"

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"That amendment was to stand over until the vote on amendment No. 16† had been taken."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I have already indicated what I had to say with regard to this amendment: that it is to be taken along with my motion (amendment No. 55‡) for the addition of a proviso to section 10 (now 11). In fact, it forms part of the same group of amendments."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"When does the Hon'ble Member wish to take it?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I will take it in connection with section 10 (now 11)."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I submit we have already discussed amendment No. 25§ along with No. 16.† Amendment No. 25§ is practically identical with the amendment moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee on section 10 (now 11), and the vote on No. 16* which we have just taken will have the effect of ruling it out."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I have no desire to renew the discussion, because I quite agree with the Hon'ble Mr. Baker that this is really an amendment with regard to which there has been a discussion."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"The President is asking whether you object to amendments Nos. 11* and 55‡ disappearing as being governed by the decision on Nos. 16† and 25.§"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"It must be governed by the voting upon the other sections. There is only one remark I wish to make. I think it is not desirable, having regard to the fact that the Chairman is the head of the Executive and that the Corporation takes cognisance of the decisions of the Executive on appeal, that the head of the Executive should sit in judgment upon appeals to which he himself is a party. It seems to me to be a combination of functions which are inconsistent with our elementary notions of justice."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"Does the Hon'ble Member wish to speak to item 55‡?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"No, Sir, except the observations I have just made."

The Motion (amendment No. 11) that the words "of the Corporation" in clause (3) of section 5 be omitted was then put and lost.

* Amendment No. 11 was a motion by the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee "that the words 'of the Corporation' in clause (3) of section 5 be omitted."

† Printed on page 1919, *ante*.

‡ As to amendment No. 55, see the second paragraph of the first footnote on page 1918, *ante*.

§ Printed on page 1940, *post*.

NEW SECTION.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR then moved amendment No. 25, namely, that after section 6 the following section be added:—

[Bom. Act III of 1888, s. 37.]

"6AA. (1) The Corporation shall, at their first meeting in each financial year, appoint one of their own number to be President until the first meeting of the Corporation in the next following financial year, unless the Councillors in the meantime retire from office, and then until the day of such retirement.

"(2) Any Councillor who ceases to be President shall be re-eligible.

"(3) If any casual vacancy occurs in the office of President of the Corporation, the Corporation shall, as soon as they conveniently can after the occurrence of such vacancy, choose one of their number to fill such vacancy; and every President so chosen shall continue in office so long only as the person in whose place he is appointed would have been entitled to continue if such vacancy had not occurred."

The Motion was put and lost.

The Hon'ble MR. APCAR, by leave of the Council, then withdrew his amendment No. 26, namely, that after the above proposed section 6AA the following section be inserted:—

[Bom. Act III of 1888, s. 36(1).]

"6AB. The Commissioner shall have the same right of being present at a meeting of the Corporation and of taking part in the discussions thereat as a Councillor, and, with the consent of the President of the meeting, may at any time make a statement or explanation of facts; but he shall not be at liberty to vote upon, or to make, any proposition at such meeting."

SECTION 6.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE, by leave of the Council, withdrew his motion (amendment No. 18) that the words "the Chairman and" in lines 1 and 2 of section 6 be omitted.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE moved his amendment No. 19, namely, that the words "the Vice-Chairman" be inserted after the word "Chairman" in lines 1 and 2 of section 6. He said:—

"Our endeavour, I mean that of the popular part of this Council, has been to obtain, as far as possible, the incorporation of the Bombay system into the Calcutta system. In that endeavour we have had the judgment of this Council, and a very decisive judgment it has been, namely, the Council has decided by an overwhelming majority that the amendments of which we had given notice, with a view to incorporate the Bombay system into the Calcutta system, shall not find a place in the Municipal Act. That being so, Sir, we fall back upon the Calcutta system. If we are not to have the Bombay system, let us have the Calcutta system; let us not have something which is neither one nor the other. Let us not have a system which shall be attended with all the inconveniences, all the difficulties, and all the complications of an unknown system. Therefore, Sir, I venture to propose that the Vice-Chairman be, as he has always been, a member of the Corporation. He is a very efficient member of the Corporation, and I appeal to my friends the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham and the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill in support of what I say. It seems to me that the Vice-Chairman ought to be permitted to be a member of the Corporation. This Bill will come into law on the 1st April, 1900, and from that day the Vice-Chairman will cease to be a member of the Corporation. It is a distinct advantage to have an officer like the Vice-Chairman, who is generally an Indian officer, in the position of a Municipal Commissioner. Oftentimes the interposition of the Vice-Chairman in heated debates has the effect of strengthening the Executive side of questions. I would refer to an item of business which was transacted the other day in which the views of Government were accepted after considerable discussion, and I may add after considerable hesitation, and I do not think I am guilty of the slightest exaggeration when I say that the views of a large number of us, among the Hindu Commissioners, were determined very considerably by the attitude of the Vice-Chairman, who was present at the meeting and explained his views. I think the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill will remember that Government in their Resolution upon the Administration of the Municipality made a recommendation to the effect that notices of demand should be issued within the currency of the quarter in respect of rate bills. We issue such notices in the fourth quarter now. The Government, with a view to render the collections more satisfactory,

suggested that, subject to certain necessary safeguards, notices of demand should be issued during the currency of the quarter. Many of us had considerable doubts with regard to the advisability of that suggestion. We thought it was a suggestion which, if accepted, might be attended with a considerable measure of oppression practised upon the poor and the helpless. That was a consideration which weighed with many of us, and, Sir, you will admit that as representatives of the people we are bound to take that view of the case and to give that view of the case the prominence it deserves. We wanted to know what the Vice-Chairman thought and what his views were with regard to the matter, because we knew that he was in sympathy with the popular side of the case. He was of opinion that, subject to the safeguards which we provided, there would be no oppression consequent upon the carrying out of the suggestion of the Government. That determined my vote, and I have no doubt it determined the votes of several of us. I take that as a concrete case. There may be other cases. It is a distinct advantage to have an Indian officer in the position of the Vice-Chairman as a Municipal Commissioner. He becomes, so to speak, the interpreter between the official head of the Corporation on the one hand and the Hindu Commissioners and the large body of Indian rate-payers on the other. From the administrative point of view the advantage of having the Vice-Chairman as a Commissioner cannot be over-estimated. There is also another view of the matter to which I desire to call attention. Under section 74 (*now* 81) you provide as follows:—

‘The Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman or the Deputy Chairman as the Chairman may direct, shall preside at every such meeting, and shall have a second or casting vote in all cases of equality of votes.’

“Sir, the Vice-Chairman is not a member of the Corporation, but all of a sudden he is elevated to the position of being President of the Corporation. He is not a member of the Corporation, but he is allowed to vote. He is not a member of the Corporation, but he is to have a double vote as President. This is an anomaly which could not fail to occur to an experienced administrator like the Hon’ble Mr. Baker. In order to cure this anomaly, my hon’ble friend has appended an Explanation to section 75 (*now* 82) as follows:—

‘For the purposes of this section, the President at a meeting of the Corporation shall be deemed to be a Commissioner.’

“In curing one anomaly my friend rushes into another. The Vice-Chairman is to be the President of the meeting of the Corporation, and for the time being he is to be a Commissioner. For how long—may I ask? The Vice-Chairman is a Commissioner for one hour and no longer. I think, Sir, all these complications might be removed by legislating to the effect that the Vice-Chairman is to be a Commissioner. The Vice-Chairman is a Hindu gentleman of eminence; he represents the Executive of the Corporation; he has sympathies with the rate-payers; his influence with the Hindu Commissioners is great; he becomes by virtue of his position the exponent and the interpreter of the official view to the Hindu Commissioners. This is a distinct advantage, and you ought not to deprive the Corporation of it. Ever since 1874 you have had a Hindu gentleman in the position of Vice-Chairman, and he has been a Commissioner, and it has always been found to be advantageous. Apart from considerations of administrative anomaly, there is this paramount consideration of administrative convenience; and, taking my stand upon that ground, I venture to appeal to Your Honour to accept the amendment which I have the honour to propose.”

The Hon’ble MR. BAKER said:—“I should have had very little objection to this amendment if the Hon’ble Member had added the Deputy Chairman to it. All throughout our proceedings it has been the endeavour of the Select Committee to place the Deputy Chairman and the Vice-Chairman on a similar footing, and if the Hon’ble Member had moved that both ‘Vice-Chairman’ and ‘Deputy Chairman’ should be members of the Corporation, I think it very probable that I should have been prepared to accede to his wishes. But as a matter of fact there is no absolute necessity that either of them should be on the Corporation. We provide that the Chairman shall preside on all ordinary occasions. On the few occasions that he is absent, we make provision in section 74 (*now* 81) that the Deputy Chairman or Vice-Chairman shall fulfil his

duties temporarily. That being so, there is no absolute necessity why either of his two lieutenants should be with him on the Municipal Board. The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee has mentioned an instance in which the present Vice-Chairman has rendered valuable service by his advice and suggestions to the Corporation, and he suggested that he did this by virtue of his being Vice-Chairman; but it is obvious that it would have been perfectly possible for him to have given the same advice, to have made exactly the same statement to the Corporation, even if he had not been a Commissioner. It is the regular practice in the Corporation when any question comes up which affects the Head of a Department, such as the Engineer or Health Officer, to invite that Head of the Department to be present and to state his views personally to the Commissioners. The Vice-Chairman, I presume, will, among other positions, be the Head of the Accounts Department, the Head of the Collection and Warrant Department, of the Corporation under the Bill. Therefore under the Bill the Vice-Chairman, even though not a member of the Corporation, would in the ordinary course have been present, and would have been invited to explain the whole position to the other Commissioners."

The Hon'ble Mr. APCAR said:—"Sir, I should not like to give a silent vote to this amendment. From my experience, the connection of the Vice-Chairman with the Corporation as a member of it has acted for nothing but good. And, with regard to the remark that fell from the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that he would be willing to accede to the amendment of my hon'ble friend Babu Surendranath Banerjee if 'Deputy Chairman' were added, surely that concedes the argument, and the Hon'ble Member cannot but mean that he considers the Vice-Chairman would be a useful member of the Corporation, and that it would be advisable to have him as a member of that body, but he will not have him separated from the Deputy Chairman in any way. It is always open to my hon'ble friend Mr. Baker to add an amendment to a later section. It is not too late for him to add as an amendment that which would meet with his own wishes, and we know that whatever he may choose to propose is bound to be passed. So that, so far as we are concerned in considering this particular point, it seems to me that everything my hon'ble friend Mr. Baker has said is entirely in favour of the admission of the Vice-Chairman as a member of the Corporation. And, Sir, I protest against the absurd idea of the Vice-Chairman and Deputy Chairman becoming members of the Corporation for half an hour or so in order to preside at the meetings of the Corporation, as is provided in a later portion of the Bill. It is a reflection, I think, on the members of the Corporation when those who are not members of the Corporation are dragged in because it is supposed that those who are members of the Corporation are not fit to preside in any circumstances whatever."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE in reply said:—"The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill is anxious to place the Vice-Chairman and the Deputy Chairman upon the same footing, but I think the Hon'ble Member will agree that, so far as the measure of responsibility is concerned, there is a very great difference between a young officer of the status of a Joint-Magistrate and an experienced and trained administrator of the status of a Vice-Chairman. A Deputy Chairman, I presume, will be a young officer with all the energy and the immature vigour of youth; but would he be fit to be placed in charge of the Warrant Department, the Loans Department or the collections extending over forty-four lakhs of rupees, which great departments are now controlled by the Vice-Chairman? The measure of the responsibility of the Vice-Chairman is infinitely superior to the responsibility which would be cast upon the Deputy Chairman. Therefore, to place the Deputy Chairman upon the same footing with the Vice-Chairman irrespective of the measure of his responsibility would be a serious legislative and administrative blunder. They ought not to be placed upon the same footing. The Deputy Chairman would probably some day be Chairman, in the same way as a Joint-Magistrate becomes Magistrate. That is his training ground, and surely he ought not to be

placed at the outset upon the same footing with the Vice-Chairman? I therefore respectfully join issue with that statement of my hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill. I find myself in the unfortunate position of not being able to agree with him in regard to another statement made by him. He has observed that even if the Vice-Chairman were not a member of the Corporation, it would still be open to him to give the same advice. But, Sir, there would be a difference between the advice tendered in the one case and that tendered in the other. As a member of the Corporation he would come in contact with the Commissioners; he would be known to the Commissioners; he would have personal influence with the Commissioners; the Commissioners would be likely to respect him; they would repose confidence in him, and when he gave advice, that advice would be accepted. But when he comes as a stranger, as a mere official, the advice that he tenders would not be accepted with the same confidence as if that advice were tendered by him as a colleague with whom they were intimately acquainted. I hope that, having regard to these considerations, my hon'ble friend in charge of the Bill will see his way, and I hope and trust, Sir, you will see your way, to accept the amendment which I have the honour to move."

The motion was put and lost.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, to be out of order:—

- (1) that the words "seventy-five" be substituted for "fifty" in line 2 of section 6;
- (2) if the above amendment be lost, that the word "sixty" be substituted for "fifty" in line 2 of section 6.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motion, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen, to be out of order:—

that in section 6 "seventy-five" be substituted for "fifty".

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Raja Shashi Shakhareswar Roy Bahadur, of Tahirpur, to be out of order:—

- (1) that in section 6, for the word "fifty", in line 2, the words "seventy-five" be substituted;
- (2) that for the words "to be elected or appointed as hereinafter provided" the following be substituted, namely:—

"of whom twenty-five shall be elected at ward elections, twenty-five by such public corporate bodies as the Calcutta University, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Trades Association, the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, the Zamindary Panchayat, the British Indian Association, the Indian Association, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, the Central National Muhammadan Association, &c., &c., to whom the Local Government, at their discretion, may from time to time grant such franchise; and the remaining twenty-five shall be appointed by the Local Government."

SECTION 8.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Mr. Apar, to be out of order:—

- (1) that in section 7 (now 8), sub-section (1), for the words "twenty-five" the words "thirty-two" be substituted;
- (2) that in section 7 (now 8), clause (d), for the word "fifteen" the word "nine" be substituted;
- (3) that in section 7 (now 8), after clause (d), the following clauses be added:—

- (e) two by the British Indian Association,
- (f) three by the Muhammadan Literary Society,
- (g) three by the Central National Muhammadan Association,
- (h) two by the Honorary Magistrates and Justices of the Peace in and for the town of Calcutta,
- (i) two by the University of Calcutta, and
- (j) one by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce."

(4) that, in line 8 of sub-section (5) of section 7 (*now 8*), for the words "clauses (a), (b) and (c)" the words "clauses (a), (b), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) and (j)" be substituted.

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"Amendment No. 31* is in order, but Nos. 32 and 33† are not in order, as I think will be admitted after what has fallen from the President. Amendments 34,‡ 36§ and 37,|| and also another one¶ on the supplementary list filed by Raja Ranajit Sinha of Nashipur, all cover the same ground; they are all in order. It would be convenient if these five amendments, namely, 31, 34, 36, 37 and 2 in the supplementary list, and a supplementary one** which the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee wishes to put in now, were all considered together, and discussed at the same time. When amendments are taken together, it is for each Hon'ble Member to move his own and to discuss them all at the same time, and then the votes are taken."

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN moved (amendment No. 31) that the following amendments be made in section 7 (*now 8*), namely:—

- (1) in clause (a) substitute "three" for "four,"
- (2) in clause (b) substitute "three" for "four,"
- (3) add "(bb) two by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce,
"(cc) two by the Muhammadan Literary Society and the Central
National Muhammadan Association, namely, one each,
"(ccc) two by the University of Calcutta,"
- (4) in clause (d) substitute "eleven" for "fifteen,"
- (5) in sub-section (5) substitute "(bb), (cc) and (ccc)" for "and (c)."

He said:—"In proposing this amendment I venture to submit that, the principle underlying the present Bill being to give predominance to the representation of mercantile interests, I think it just that the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce should have a power to nominate at least two Commissioners, the English merchants returning eight according to my amendment namely, three by the Chamber of Commerce, three by the Trades Association, and two by the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta.

"It has often been complained that at Ward elections the Muhammadans are not properly represented. I have therefore thought fit to authorise the two leading Muhammadan Societies to nominate two Commissioners. Then, again, following the Bombay Act, which has been taken as the model in framing the present Bill, I have proposed to take two Commissioners from the University. The University represents the intellect of the country, and it is just that it should have a voice in the nomination of Commissioners, as in Bombay.

"If the English merchants are deemed not to have been properly represented, the Government may supplement the number by nomination, and maintain an equilibrium.

"I am aware there are other Associations, such as the British Indian Association, the Indian Association and the Zamindari Panchayat. These are important bodies, and they should certainly be represented. I am confident the Government will exercise its power to take at least one nominee of each of the above bodies.

"It is true I have not introduced these Associations into my amendment, but this does not signify that they were absent from my mind. I have left it to Government to take in their nominees to restore an equilibrium, if the communities whom these Associations represent, are not adequately represented.

"As five different amendments are to be discussed together, the best thing would be to take the proposals referring to nomination by each body as a separate amendment, so that the chance of conflict may be minimised."

* Printed on page 1944, *post*.

† Printed on page 1955, *post*.

‡ Printed on page 1945, *post*.

§ Printed on page 1946, *post*.

|| Printed on page 1946, *post*.

¶ Printed on page 1948, *post*.

** Printed on p. 1948, *post*.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE moved (amendment No. 34) that the following be substituted for section 7, sub-section (1a) [now section 8, sub-section (2)]:—

“The remaining Commissioners shall be appointed as follows:—

- (a) eleven by the Local Government,
- (b) ten by the Presidency Magistrates,
- (c) two by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and
- (d) two by the Fellows of the University.”

He said:—“Here again I follow the Bombay model. If among 72 Commissioners in Bombay the Government appoints 16, what should be the number that Your Honour's Government ought to appoint among 50 Commissioners? It is 11, or a little over 11. Therefore I suggest that the number to be appointed by Government, directly following the Bombay model, should be 11. Then, Sir, I eliminate the Trades Association and the Port Trust. We have in the Bombay Act the Chamber of Commerce returning two members, and they have also a Port Trust there. It seems to me—with all the respect that I feel for the Hon'ble Members representing the Port Trust, that to ask that body to return members, after having asked the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association to do so, is really bringing coals to Newcastle. What is the Port Trust? An echo, a reflection, of the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association. Therefore, Sir, I think there ought to be no squeamishness whatever in refusing to allow the Port Trust to return members.

“Then I come to the Trades Association, and here I admit that I suggest a recommendation which is outside of the present law, and, Sir, I confess I am somewhat of a conservative in these matters. When a law is a good law and has been found to be so in practice, I do not advocate a change. But, Sir, the Trades Association and the Chamber of Commerce represent one and the same interest. There is absolute uniformity of aims and ideas between them, and no more striking illustration of the cordiality and the uniformity of interest between the two bodies is to be found than in the hearty good-will which prevails in this Council Chamber between my two hon'ble friends who represent them. The other day, in reference to a particular matter, I tried to get over one of my hon'ble friends to my side. I had nearly succeeded, as I thought in my mind; but a conference took place between them, and then I found that my labour was completely lost. Therefore it seems to me that, as far as the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association are concerned, there being this complete uniformity of interests, the Chamber of Commerce ought to be able to represent the interests of the Trades Association, or *vice versa*.

“If we accept this view, we shall then be in a position to bring in the other constituencies. The Presidency Magistrates represent the majesty of law and justice, and there are members of the mercantile community and members of the trades who are Presidency Magistrates. Then there are Fellows of the University—a learned body. I think, now that we are recasting the law, it is necessary that we should obtain a wider and a more divergent representation, and that wider and more diversified representation would be obtained by introducing the Presidency Magistrates and the Fellows of the University. I can well understand the reasons which induced the legislators of 1888 to make the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association the two different constituencies that they now are. At that time the endeavour was made to persuade the European community to take part in municipal affairs. The European community at that time were in a minority. Is not the aspect of things completely changed as regards the Municipality by this Bill? The European community will be in the majority. We Hindus need to be protected. Special constituencies are necessary for us, and therefore I ask that the University, in which there is a large element of the Indian community, and the Presidency Magistrates, in which there is also a considerable Indian element, should be formed into constituencies for purposes of municipal representation. This Bill will give the supremacy to the European community in the affairs of the Corporation, and will reduce the Hindus to a minority. That being so, what are we to do with these constituencies? They ought to be

adjusted to suit the changed circumstances, and the re-adjustment which I suggest would secure a wider, a more diversified and a more diffused representation, which I think is essential for the sound and efficient administration of our municipal affairs."

The Hon'ble BABU BOIKANTA NATH SEN moved (amendment No. 36) that the following be substituted for section 7, sub-section (1a) [*now* section 8, sub-section (2)]:—

"The remaining Commissioners shall be appointed as follows, namely:—

- (a) eleven by the Local Government,
- (b) ten by the Presidency Magistrates,
- (c) two by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and
- (d) two by the Fellows of the Calcutta University."

He said:—"I embark in the same boat as my hon'ble friend Babu Surendra-nath Banerjee, so that I can only endorse the arguments which have been addressed to the Council by the Hon'ble Member. I would only add this: The Government of India, in their despatch No. 93,* have recognised two interests: the European interest and the native interest. The Government reserve to itself certain powers for nominating certain Commissioners in order to equalize that power. According to the Bill there would be an abnormal preponderance of the European element. These three interests—the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Calcutta Trades Association and the Commissioners of the Port of Calcutta—all represent the same interest, and inasmuch as two of them—the Calcutta Trades Association and the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta—do not find any place in the Bombay model, my amendment is designed to eliminate them."

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA moved (amendment No. 37) that, in section 7, sub-section (1a) [*now* section 8, sub-section (2)], the word "and" at the end of clause (c), and the whole of clause (d), be omitted, and that the following be substituted:—

- '(d) one by the Senate of the University of Calcutta, and
- '(e) fourteen by the Local Government.'

He said:—"Sir, it was not without some hesitation that I decided to bring before the Council the proposition which I have now the honour to move for your acceptance. Such hesitation arose, not because I had any doubts as to the perfect propriety of my motion, but because I found that, in whatever way I might press the claims of the University, I must necessarily encroach upon the privileges of the Government of Bengal. But I must confess that, when I discovered that other Hon'ble Members had undertaken to support the cause of the University in the manner indicated in the motions which have been disallowed, I felt somewhat embarrassed. I naturally feel gratified that so many Hon'ble Members should interest themselves in the matter, for the University is entitled to the loyalty and devotion of all her children; but at the same time I venture to think that her claim, if carried to excess, might be altogether lost, and, if linked with other claims not equally strong, might not be sufficiently distinguished. That my fears were not altogether unfounded has, I think, been amply proved by the fate of the motions disallowed. In the first place, it seems to me that if the University of Bombay, with a Senate of over 300 members, sends two representatives to a Corporation of 72, I do not think I can legitimately ask you to give the University of Calcutta, with a Senate of over 200 members, more than one representative upon a Corporation of 50. In the second place, I do not think it wise to couple the claims of the Calcutta University with those of the other Associations which I should be happy to see represented on the Municipal Corporation; for I cannot afford to forget that, whatever the status and the usefulness of these public or semi-public bodies may be, their claims can hardly be placed as high as those of the University, which is a Corporation created by Statute, which has for its Chancellor the highest official in the land, and which controls the higher education of the people, not only of the provinces under Your Honour's rule, but also of Assam, Burma

* This despatch is dated the 17th June, 1899, and is printed in Papers No. 40 relating to the Bill.

and Ceylon. However much, therefore, I may rejoice at any decision of the Council favourable to these Associations, I must ask you to consider the present motion as distinct from those that have preceded it.

"Sir, I have just alluded to the system which prevails in Bombay, but it is neither necessary nor desirable to support my proposition solely by analogy; the strongest arguments in its favour are, I think, to be found within the four corners of the Bill now before you. In the first place, if we turn for a moment to the provisions of section 23A (*now* 14), sub-section (2), clauses (vii) and (viii), which describe the special functions of the Corporation, we find that the promotion of primary and technical education and the provision of free libraries are two of the objects to which they may devote their attention. It is hardly necessary for me to point out that, in this inclusion of educational objects within the scope of municipal activity, we are not by any means singular; if, for instance, we turn to sections 61 and 63 of the Bombay Act, section 33 of the Madras Act, and section 72 of the Punjab Act, we find similar provisions, for the promotion of educational objects, and for the construction and maintenance of free libraries, museums and art galleries. If these, then, are legitimate objects falling within the province of municipal government, I venture to affirm that there is nothing unreasonable in my proposition that there should be at least one educational member on the Corporation. Criticisms, some of them not very just or impartial, have been levelled at the Corporation from so many different quarters, and upon such diverse topics, that I have no desire to add to their number; but I regret to have to say that the promotion of technical education and the maintenance of a free public library have been two of the neglected fields of activity. It has been one of the lasting reproaches of the capital of the Indian Empire that we have not here a public library either worthy of the city or sufficient to satisfy the needs of the educated public. It is not essential that I should take up your time by a detailed account of what has been done in similar directions by the great Municipal Corporations of England and the Continent, but I confess I feel humiliated when I consider that the Corporations of Manchester, Birmingham and Berlin have shown a wonderful enthusiasm in the establishment and development of the free-library system, and in the promotion of special and technical education under municipal auspices, while we have neglected to do even what little we might have done with the limited means at our disposal. I trust, Sir, that, if it be the pleasure of this Council to decide in favour of my proposition, the University will be in a position to send as its representative on the Corporation a person who has devoted himself to the study of the educational problems of the day, and who, by the accuracy and moderation of his views, may make them acceptable to the members of the Corporation.

"In the second place, Sir, I desire to invite the attention of the Council to the fact that the Senate of the University numbers on its rolls the most distinguished Doctors and the most competent Engineers, both native and European, that we have in this country. It has always seemed to me somewhat anomalous that the only qualification which entitles a person to take a part in the municipal government of the city should be a purely property qualification; and had it not been for the decision of the Government of India, reducing the number of elected Commissioners from 50 to 25, I should have been prepared to move that one at least of the Commissioners, returned by each of the Wards, should be a qualified medical practitioner or a well-trained Engineer. Be that as it may, I venture to express the hope that, if the Senate of the University be authorized to send a representative to the Corporation, it may from time to time send a great Doctor, or an experienced Engineer, whose helpful advice could otherwise hardly be secured.

"In the third place, Sir, I desire to point out that the University is, if I may be allowed the use of the expression, a *neutral* constituency. Although I am placing this ground last, it is by no means of the least importance, and I would venture to invite your special attention to it. If you examine the constitution of the Senate from year to year, you will find that what I may call the European and the native elements almost balance each other. In some years, perhaps, owing to death, resignation or retirement in the ranks of the one, the other may predominate; but, taken as a whole, each

balances the other; for instance, if you look to the constitution of the Syndicate, which is the governing body of the University, in the present year, you find that there are seven Europeans and four Indians, one of whom is a Muhammadan. If you take last year's figures, you will find that there were five Europeans and six Indians, of whom two were Muhammadans; but, apart from the question of mere numbers, I rejoice to think that party feeling has not, as yet, to any appreciable extent, invaded the ranks of the Senate, and it has always been a source of gratification to me that the position which I have attained in the University is due as much to the indulgence of my European as of my native friends. I trust, therefore, that, if the University has an opportunity of sending a member to the Corporation, such nominee will reflect the neutral character of the body he represents.

"I have now stated, as briefly as I could, the reasons in support of my proposition, which, analysed, comes to this,—the Government of Bengal has the power of appointing 15 members of the Corporation; these members, I take it, will represent minorities and interests other than those represented by the 25 elected Commissioners and the 10 Commissioners appointed by the representatives of Trade and Commerce. Can the University fairly claim to be one of these minorities, and ask the Government to concede the privilege of appointing one member on the Corporation? I leave the decision confidently in the hands of the Council, in the belief that, whatever may be the fate of my motion, it will have the sympathy of all who have been educated at an Indian University or at any of those ancient seats of learning which are the glory of England; and shall I venture to indulge, Sir, in the hope that it may have the sympathy of Your Honour, whose name appears on the rolls of our University as its senior Fellow and who, if he had not chosen to adorn another sphere, might well have been proud of his academic distinctions."

The Hon'ble RAJA SHASHI SHAKHARESWAR ROY BAHADUR of Tahirpur, in the absence of the Hon'ble Raja Ranajit Sinha Bahadur of Nashipur, moved, on behalf of the latter (amendment No. 2 in the supplementary list) that the word "ten" be substituted for the word "fifteen" in clause (d) of section 7 (now section 8), and that after clause (d) the following clauses be inserted:—

- '(e) two by the British Indian Association;
- '(f) one by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce; and
- '(g) two by the Muhammadan Literary Society and the Central National Muhammadan Association, respectively.'

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"Does the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee wish to now put in an alternative motion?"

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE then, with the leave of the President, moved that, if his first amendment (namely, amendment No. 34) of section 7, sub-section (1) (a), [now section 8, sub-section (2)], be lost, the following be added that sub-section:—

- 'The remaining Commissioners shall be appointed as follows:—
- eleven by the Local Government;
- four by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce;
- four by the Calcutta Trades Association;
- two by the Presidency Magistrates;
- two by the University of Calcutta; and
- two by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.'

He said:—"I venture to submit that this amendment moves along the line of least resistance. I keep existing things intact as far as practicable. I only seek to deprive the Government of the right of appointing four members. The Government appoints 15 members under the Bill; I suggest that Your Honour may be pleased to appoint only 11. And here again I fall back upon the Bombay model. Under the Bombay model the number ought to be 11 and no more. Then I suggest that the Port Trust should be deprived of their franchise. The Port Trust need not return members when the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association have the right of returning eight members between them. In Bombay the Port Trust does not return a single member to the Corporation. I keep the number for the Trades Association, which is 4; I keep the number for

the Chamber of Commerce, *viz.*, 4; I get 4 from the Government and 2 from the Port Trust. Then I distribute the 6 among three different constituencies: 2 for the Presidency Magistrates, 2 for the University and 2 for the National Chamber of Commerce. It strikes me that these proposals ought to be accepted by the Government. It makes the least disturbance of existing arrangements, and it creates wider and more representative constituencies. Sir Steuart Bayley, when Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, said from his place as President of this Council that a time would come when the Government would find itself in a position to relieve itself partially of the responsibility of making nominations to the large extent which Government did at that time. I think the time has now come, and I hope and trust that Your Honour will see your way to accept this amendment."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"There are five amendments now before the Council, all dealing with the constitution of the Corporation. Two of these are identical. They are, the first amendment moved by the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee and the one moved by the Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen. As these two are the most far-reaching and most sweeping, I will deal with them first. I am bound to say that I think the usual good sense and good judgment of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee must have failed him to some extent when he put forward this very extraordinary proposal. All through the proceedings in connection with the Bill there has never from first to last been any suggestion that the constitution of the Corporation should be altered. Neither the Corporation, nor any of the other bodies who were consulted, nor any of the speakers at the various public meetings have suggested that any change should be made in the bodies entitled to send representatives to the Municipality, and the Hon'ble Member will doubtless admit that we should never have heard one word of his proposal now if it had not been for the changes suggested by the Government of India. For, Sir, the real object of this amendment is as clear as the sun at noon-day. The object and the effect of it will be to retain a preponderance of power in the hands of the same class who have the preponderance now. The Hon'ble Member believes, and probably has good ground for believing, that, for instance, if we allot 10 seats to the Presidency Magistrates of Calcutta, the Presidency Magistrates will return gentlemen of the same class as those who are returned at present at Ward elections. There is no sort of resemblance, nor the faintest similarity, between the Justices of the Peace of Bombay and the Presidency Magistrates of Calcutta. In Bombay, there are 572 Justices, of whom 335 are natives and 237 are Europeans and Eurasians. I have made some enquiries from Bombay as to who the Justices are and what their functions are. I find they have two functions and two only. They have the power under the Criminal Procedure Code of attesting documents, and they have the power under the Municipal Act of electing 16 members to the Corporation of Bombay. That is all. They are appointed by Government and the list of them is revised every year. I understand that there is great competition for the office; that the list includes practically every man of light and leading; every man of wealth and position; all the aristocracy throughout the city of Bombay. Every European of good position is put on to the list as a matter of course, and there is not a single member on the Justices' list, who is not a gentleman of high social and personal status. In fact, the Justices' list is a kind of glorified Darbar list. It is certainly not possible to describe the Presidency Magistrates of Calcutta in terms in the least resembling these. I have no intention of saying anything in disparagement of our Magistrates, who are a very deserving body of men, but I am quite certain no one can for one instant place them on anything like the same footing as the Justices of Bombay. In the first place, there are only 87 of them, all told. Of these, 61 are natives, and 26 are Europeans and others, including those who are dead and those who have left Calcutta or are no longer residing even in India. Then, Sir, among the 87 there are two classes which predominate over all others. Among the 87 you will find no less than 18 who either are or have been Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta, and of the remainder you will find a very large proportion—I cannot say how great—who are lawyers of some kind or another: pleaders, attorneys, and a small sprinkling of barristers-at-law. These two classes taken together would

absolutely swamp the elections. Would it not be positively grotesque to assign to a constituency so insignificant in numbers and composed as this is, the right of sending 10 representatives to the Municipal Board, a number nearly as great as the Hon'ble Member proposes to assign to Government itself, and five times as great as he proposes to assign to Trade and Commerce?

"Another innovation which Hon'ble Members have proposed is that two representatives should be elected by the Fellows of the Calcutta University, and the Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya has touched on the same point, though in a very much more moderate way. It may be the case that the Senate of the Bombay University has some ground for sending two representatives to the Bombay Corporation; but, however that may be, I have very little doubt that the University of Calcutta is not a body which has a good claim to send representatives to the Municipal Board in Calcutta. In the first place, the University of Calcutta is not localised in Calcutta at all. It is an examining body. If it can be said to be localised anywhere, it is localised in those parts of the province in which its affiliated colleges are to be found. The Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya told us that it governed or regulated education not only in Bengal, but in Assam, in Burma and in Ceylon. I think, Sir, that a body which represents education not in these Provinces only, but over a great part of India, has very little claim *prima facie* to representation on a purely local Corporation. But there is another argument also. If the University stands for anything, it stands for education. Now, Sir, what has the Calcutta Corporation to do with education? Since 1888 it has been allowed to spend its funds on primary and technical education. What has it done? In the Town proper, it has never spent one farthing from first to last on primary, technical or any other kind of education. In the Suburbs, the area which was added in 1888, it has spent nothing on technical education; it has spent nothing on secondary education: and on primary education it has spent a sum of Rs. 3,000 a year, that being the amount of certain contributions which used to be made by the old Suburban Municipality to primary schools within that area. That is all. In fact, the Corporation, for reasons for which I do not blame them in the least, reasons which I hold to be entirely just and sound, have taken no part in educational matters, and have devoted no portion of their funds to educational expenditure. In that case, Sir, I think the body which represents education has no special claim to send members to the Corporation.

"I now turn to the amendment of the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen, which is on the whole a moderate amendment. He proposes to reduce the representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association to 3 each; he would assign 2 seats to the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, 2 seats to the two Muhammadan Associations, and 2 to the University. The first thing that occurs to one on looking at those proposals is that the one Association in Calcutta which would have a prior claim to special representation, if we were giving any, is left out. I mean the British Indian Association. The Hon'ble Member felt I think the weakness of his position in omitting that body, because he said that it would be for Government to appoint representatives from that Association and from certain others which he named. But if we are going to give in the body of the Act special representation to any additional Association, I think there can be no question that the British Indian Association has the first claim. Then, Sir, I demur strongly to his proposal to reduce by two the representatives of trade and commerce. The number which trade and commerce have had since 1888 is 10, and 10 will only be one-fifth of the whole number of the Commissioners; and considering the enormous extent to which trade and commerce, especially foreign commerce, have created Calcutta, I think that one-fifth is the smallest possible proportion that can be justly given to them. I cannot regard in any way the proposal to give two seats to the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce as within the sphere of practical politics. I have made some attempt to discover what the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce is. I enquired among others of my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Apar. He was unable to tell me much, and the information he gave me was merely what I had obtained before. As far as I can make out, it is what is ordinarily called a 'one man show.' A gentleman well known and respected in Calcutta, Babu Sita Nath Roy, is the head and front of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

I have been unable to ascertain the name of any other leading firm which is a member of it. I am informed that the firm of which my friend Babu Nalin Behari Sircar is a member does not belong to the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce. I am informed that the firm of Pran Kissen Law & Co., to which Babu Joy Gobind Law belongs, is not a member. All my informants coincide in saying that Babu Sita Nath Roy stands practically alone. Now, Sir, with the greatest possible respect for Babu Sita Nath Roy, it is quite clear that it is absolutely out of the question to assign two seats in the Corporation to him and his nominees.

"With reference to the two Muhammadan Associations which have been mentioned by the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen and the Hon'ble Raja Ranajit Sina, I hesitate to suggest that any special representation should be given to these two bodies. I have really not very much information about them, but so far as my information goes, there is reason to believe that they are not wholly representative. My hon'ble friends Prince Bakhtyar Shah and Maulvi Llawar Hosain will correct me if I am wrong, but I am told that they do not stand on a very stable or permanent basis. I have heard that their influence among their co-religionists in Calcutta is not always as great as might be wished. I may be wrong in this view, but so long as any doubt remains, it would not be justifiable to give special representation to these two Associations. I sympathise on the whole with the various proposals that have been made to cut down the number of representatives to be appointed directly by Government. I have a good deal of sympathy with the view that Government should by degrees divest itself of the duty of appointing representatives of minorities, and I should have been very glad if we could have taken some step in that direction now; but it is evident that in making our selection of Associations for this purpose the most sure-footed caution is necessary. We have to consider all the Associations in existence at the time the legislation is undertaken, and to determine which of them has the best claim to special representation, and I am by no means prepared to say that the various Associations which have been named in these five amendments are the only or the best Associations to which it might be possible to give special representation. The Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen refers to the Indian Association. That I think would probably be supported by my hon'ble friend Babu Surendranath Banerjee. Another Association which I think would probably have a good claim is the Anglo-Indian and Eurasian Association. Then we have to bear in mind the fact that when we have made our selection, we have no kind of guarantee as a rule that they will be permanent. We know that the Public Health Society, which was in existence from 1884 onwards, for some years did a good deal of very useful work, and it appeared for some time to be likely to become permanent. It is now deunct. What would have happened if we had in the Act of 1884 enacted that the Public Health Society should be entitled to return its members to the Calcutta Corporation? We have no guarantee either that an Association which may be chosen will be permanent, or that it will continue to represent the same interests that it did at the time when it first came into existence. When an Association has been in existence for a considerable number of years,—for several generations,—when it has acquired a definite corporate existence, then the time may come for Government to consider the propriety of mentioning it in an Act of the Legislature; and it seems to me that almost the only Association which would have any claim under that condition is the British Indian Association. The other bodies that have been mentioned, I fear, must stand over until they are considerably older than they are at present. I think therefore, Sir, that all these amendments the Council will act wisely in rejecting, even the very moderate one moved by the Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE in reply said:—"I must be permitted to express my regret at the personal remarks which have been imported into this controversy by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill. He began with the remark that I was wanting in good sense in having put forward a certain amendment. I am not going to reply to that, but would only say that, assuming, which I do not, that I failed in good sense, I soon recovered it

in sending notice of a very moderate amendment. My hon'ble friend was pleased to say that my first amendment was an endeavour on my part to retain that preponderance of the Hindu element which it was the object of this Bill to cut down. Suppose, Sir, it was so, ought I to be ashamed of it? Ought it to be brought as an imputation against me? Suppose that, as a representative of the Hindu community from my place in this Legislative Council, I was endeavouring to assert by all lawful means the claims of my community to a preponderant share in municipal representation to which they are entitled; is that a thing of which I ought to be ashamed? It will be a matter of legitimate pride to me that I did my level best in maintaining the preponderance of my community in my native town."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"I did not impute it to the Hon'ble Member as a fault. I was explaining the effect of the proposal."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I am glad my hon'ble friend does not regard it as a fault. I deprecated the personal remarks that were imported into the discussion. When my hon'ble friend said that the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce was a 'one man show,' I am perfectly certain he could not have made any careful enquiry into the matter; I know something about the Chamber. My hon'ble friend observed that Pran Kissen Law & Co. and Babu Nalin Behari Sircar and others do not belong to this Association. Pran Kissen Law & Co. and Ke. Tarruk & Co. are European firms; they are members of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. Babu Joy Gobind Law, of the firm of Messrs. Pran Kissen Law & Co., was President of the National Chamber of Commerce at one time, and he is a member now. Men like Babus Chundee Lal Singh, Harry Ram Gerka, and Raja Sew Bux Bogla are members. All the most distinguished merchants of Hatkola are members, and you refuse to recognise them in the Bill, but you have recognised them in the representation of the Port Trust. The National Chamber of Commerce sends a representative to the Port Trust. Would it not be as well that the National Chamber of Commerce should be permitted to send one or two representatives to the Corporation? Then my hon'ble friend the Member in charge of the Bill referred to the Presidency Magistrate, and here again I deprecate the observations which he has made. He said they were not men of the same high social position as the Bombay Justices were. I am a Presidency Magistrate, my friend the Hon'ble Mr. APCA was a Presidency Magistrate, and I think the best, the most deserving, and the most meritorious men the Government can think of are Presidency Magistrates."

The Hon'ble MR. APCA said:—"I have resigned."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"The Government appoints the Presidency Magistrates, and I think my hon'ble friend is more responsible than any one else for these appointments."

The Hon'ble MR. BAKER said:—"But I am not proposing that they should send members to the Corporation."

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE said:—"I wish to point out that the Presidency Magistrates are not men of an inferior status at all. They are men of high standing; they are entrusted with very responsible functions; they are held in honour and esteem by their countrymen, and even if what you said were true, the Government was responsible and nobody else. I would in conclusion make this suggestion. that if the Government is unable at the present moment to see its way to legislate in favour of any particular Association sending representatives to the Corporation, will the Government, when the time of nomination comes, invite particular Associations in an executive fashion to send members to the Corporation, and then, when Government finds that proper and worthy men have been sent, the Government may stereotype that custom by future legislation? We might at any rate make a beginning now, the advantage of which our successors may reap."

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN in reply said:—"I wish to make only one observation. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has said that nothing has been spent on education, primary or technical, by the Corporation ever since its establishment. Provisions for primary and technical education have been made in the present Bill, and they existed in the previous law, and they were meant, I doubt not, to be given effect to; but as a matter of fact the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill informs us that nothing has been done by the Corporation in that direction. I should contend that that is the very reason why the University should be represented in the Corporation.

"These amendments being put together, difficulty will arise as to the vote in respect of each amendment. I should, therefore, propose that each amendment as to nomination by each separate body be taken as a separate amendment, so that there may be less chance of conflict between the several amendments. So I would ask Your Honour to take each sub-division of the amendments separately."

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA in reply said:—"I should like to offer one or two observations with regard to my motion. I confess I was surprised at the opposition by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill to my motion, which he characterised as a very moderate one. I am not surprised that with his usual acuteness he has brought forward reasons which completely prove my case. One of the arguments which he advanced was that the University of Calcutta is not localised in this City. If my hon'ble friend had been a Member of the Senate he would have been able to state to the Council that more than half and a little less than two-thirds of the Members of the Senate are residents of this City and its immediate neighbourhood. Besides, the objection which he has urged applies equally to the University of Bombay. The University of Bombay is founded on the model of the University of Calcutta; it is as much an examining body as this University, and it is localised in Bombay. It conducts examinations in English throughout the Bombay Presidency and the Province of Sindh. In the next place the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill urges that the Calcutta University has control over education, but what has the Calcutta Municipality to do with education? I refer to section 23A (now 14, to prove completely that the Calcutta Municipality has or ought to have something to do with education. I have not seen in the notice of amendments any proposed motion by the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that those clauses should be omitted. If they are to stand there, I submit it is not a legitimate argument to say that the Calcutta Municipality has nothing to do with education. Then it is said that the Calcutta Municipality has never spent a farthing for primary or technical education. That is precisely my complaint. I do not know whether it is true; but, accepting that statement, I say that it ought not to be so, and that that state of things will be remedied if the Calcutta University can send a man to the Corporation who has studied the educational problems of the day. Then; in, the last place, the Hon'ble Member suggested that many of the Associations he referred to are not permanent bodies. I do not know whether he intended to include under the term 'Association' the University of Calcutta, but I hope that the University of Calcutta is as permanent as any other body in this country."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT said:—"The Council will remember that there are three interests to be represented in the Corporation: one is the body of rate-payers, second, trade and commerce, and the third is the Government. To the rate-payers have been assigned 25 representatives; to trade and commerce have been assigned 10, and I agree with the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill that from that number there can be no possible reduction. Lastly, there remains the Government, which has got 15 representatives. The Government, as you will all admit, has very important interests in Calcutta, and yet out of these 15 representatives it has to secure not only its own interests in the city, but the interests of minorities. Now it was very forcibly argued in the course of one of these debates that the effect of the reduction of the ward representatives would be to leave altogether unrepresented some of the minorities who meanwhile find representation there. Therefore, whatever sympathy the

Government may have in the claims of Associations of various kinds to find representation in the Corporation, the Government must be careful to see what the result of these changes is. It has to consider and protect the claims of minorities, and, until it knows what the minorities are that are not represented, it can go no further in the direction of assignment of seats to Associations. The Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has said perfectly truly that all Governments are anxious to be assisted in their responsibility in the selection of representation. That has been the tendency and attitude of Government for a long time, and what we can do in that way we shall do; but on this amendment I must guard myself by making no promises of any kind."

The Hon'ble BABU JATRA MOHAN SEN's amendment (No. 31) was then put and lost.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE's first amendment (No. 34) was then put and lost.

The Hon'ble BABU BOIKANTA NATH SEN's amendment (No. 36) was then put and lost.

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA's amendment (No. 37) being put, the Council divided as follows:—

Ayes 5.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee.
The Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen.
The Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya.
The Hon'ble Mr. Apear.
The Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen.

Noes 12.

The Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie.
The Hon'ble Sahibzada Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah.
The Hon'ble Mr. Spink.
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delawar Hosain Ahmed.
The Hon'ble Mr. Slack.
The Hon'ble Mr. Handley.
The Hon'ble Mr. Buckland.
The Hon'ble Rai Durga Gati Banerjee Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. Baker.
The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton.
The Hon'ble Mr. Buckley.
The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham.

So the amendment was lost.

The Hon'ble RAJA RANAJIT SINHA BAHADUR's amendment (No. 2 in the supplementary list) was then put and lost.

The Hon'ble BABU SURENDRANATH BANERJEE's second amendment* being put, the Council divided as follows:—

Ayes 4.

The Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee.
The Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen.
The Hon'ble Dr. Asutosh Mukhopadhyaya.
The Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen.

Noes 13.

The Hon'ble Mr. Apear.
The Hon'ble Mr. Mackenzie.
The Hon'ble Sahibzada Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah.
The Hon'ble Mr. Spink.
The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Maulvi Delawar Hosain Ahmed.
The Hon'ble Mr. Slack.
The Hon'ble Mr. Handley.
The Hon'ble Mr. Buckland.
The Hon'ble Rai Durga Gati Banerjee Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. Baker.
The Hon'ble Mr. Bolton.
The Hon'ble Mr. Buckley.
The Hon'ble Mr. Oldham.

So the amendment was lost.

The Hon'ble DR. ASUTOSH MUKHOPADHYAYA, by leave of the Council, then withdrew the motion (amendment No. 38), standing in his name, that in subsection (3) of section 7 (now 8), line 3, "(c) and (d)" be substituted for "and (c)".

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerjee, to be out of order:—

- (1) (amendment No. 32) that the word "Fifty" be substituted for the words "Twenty-five" in line 1 of section 7 (*now* 8);
- (2) (amendment No. 33) if the above amendment be lost, and if the amendment substituting the word "sixty" for the word "fifty" in line 2 of section 6 be carried, that the following be added to section 7, sub-section (1a) [*now* section 8, sub-section (2)]:—
 "(a) eight by the Presidency Magistrates of Calcutta;
 "(f) two by the Fellows of the University."

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motion (amendment No. 35), standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Boikanta Nath Sen, to be out of order:—

That "Fifty" be substituted for "Twenty-five" in section 7 (*now* 8), sub-section (1).

SECTION 9.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motions, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, to be out of order:—

- (1) (amendment No. 40) that in section 8 (*now* 9), clause (a), for the word "four" the word "six" be substituted;
- (2) (amendment No. 41) that in section 8 (*now* 9), clause (b), for the word "four" the word "six" be substituted, and for the words "clauses (a), (b), (c) and (d)" the words "sub-section (1a)" [*now* sub-section (2)] be substituted;
- (3) (amendment No. 42) that in section 8 (*now* 9), clause (c), for the word "four" the word "two" be substituted.

The Hon'ble THE PRESIDENT also ruled the following motion, standing in the name of the Hon'ble Babu Jatra Mohan Sen, to be out of order:—

(amendment No. 43) that the following amendments be made in section 8 (*now* 9), namely:—

- (1) in sub-section (2), clause (a), substitute "six" for "four;"
- (2) for clauses (b) and (c) substitute "and, of the remaining six, four shall be elected by the Commissioners appointed by the different bodies, and two by the Local Government."

The Council was then adjourned to Monday, the 11th September, 1899.

CALCUTTA;
The 14th November, 1899. }

F. G. WIGLEY,
Assistant Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,
Legislative Department.

RESOLUTION ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION REPORT
OF THE CHOTA NAGPUR DIVISION FOR THE YEAR 1898-99.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—(MISCELLANEOUS).

Darjeeling, the 8th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No 630T.—G.

READ—

The Annual General Administration Report of the Chota Nagpur Division for the year 1898-99.

MR. FORBES, who submits the report, was in charge of this Division throughout the year.

2. *Tours and Inspections.*—During the latter half of November the Lieutenant-Governor visited this Division, starting from Giridih. He went to the head-quarters of each district, and held a Darbar at Ranchi, at which he had the pleasure of meeting all the Chiefs of the Feudatory States. Owing to the very great extent of the Division, it is not possible for the Commissioner to visit all the Tributary States every year, and so on this occasion, besides seeing and inspecting the two subdivisions and the head-quarters of each district, Mr. Forbes made a very useful tour through the Western States, visiting Gangpur, Korea, and Sirguja.

The wishes of Government as to the amount of time to be spent on tours were complied with by all the District Officers, save one, for whom, however, satisfactory reasons are given.

Why Mr. Martin, the Subdivisional Officer of Giridih, was unable to spend more than 78 days on tour is not stated. Except in certain instances, which are fully explained, the usual inspections were made by all the District Officers.

3. *Weather and Crops; Prices; Public Health; Material Condition of the People.*—The chief point noticeable with regard to the weather during 1898-99 was the extremely favourable manner in which, for agricultural purposes, the rainfall was distributed throughout the year. Naturally, therefore, the outturn of all the crops was very fine, that of the winter rice, the mainstay of the people, being exceptionally so. As a consequence of the excellent harvest, the prices of food-grains were very low, in some places a maund of husked rice selling for a rupee. The mahua crop, which is of much importance to the poorer classes, was plenteous. The people, therefore, have thus had the benefit of two unusually fruitful years in succession. This, by very materially improving the condition to which they had been reduced by the late famine, was no doubt one reason why the public health during the year under review was so exceptionally good, the death rate from all causes per mille being only 19·20 as compared with 30·8, the average of the six years immediately preceding. Furthermore, no epidemic of cholera or small-pox occurred.

4. *Emigration and Immigration.*—The figures available with reference to emigration shew most markedly the effect of the good harvests. The number of emigrants recruited and registered under Act I of 1882 sank from 26,468 of the preceding year to 9,899; while in the case of those who leave under the free labour system, the corresponding decrease was from 19,285 to 4,434, but the data concerning these figures are admittedly incomplete, and must be so until the Act is revised, a subject which was much discussed during the year. Practically, the only immigration consisted of an influx of Sonthals in pargana Dhalbhum, in Singhbhum, and of coolies to the collieries, concerning whom statistics are not forthcoming.

5. *Manufactures, Mines, and Commerce.*—The fear that many of those engaged in weaving *tasar* cloths had been permanently ousted from the trade owing to the late scarcity in Manbhum would appear to be doubtful, as the estimated outturn was 33 per cent. greater than in 1897-98. Lac and tea are the chief manufactures in this Division. Regarding the former, the results

during the year were better, owing to a rise in price, the value of the products in Manbhum having been Rs. 5,60,000 as compared with Rs. 3,90,000 in 1897-98, but the future is reported not to be very hopeful.

So far as could be gathered from the statistics furnished to the local officers, which comprised 25 out of the 26 gardens in the Division, the total yield of tea was a little over 9 per cent. of the quantity made in the preceding year, but the Lieutenant-Governor is with regret compelled to agree with the Commissioner that the prospects of tea in Chota Nagpur are not bright.

One very important industry in this Division is that of coal mining, which will gradually increase in importance as the districts become opened out by railroads, since there are several very promising tracts now unworkable owing to want of easy access.

At present the industry is confined to the Giridih and Gobindpur subdivisions, the total output in 1898-99 having been 1,539,696 tons, or 42 per cent. in excess of last year, a quantity which, it is said, would have been much larger had sufficient means of transport been available.

The output of mica was 5,886 maunds, or very little more than half that of the previous year, but no reason for this is given. The demand for this mineral is apparently good, but the methods now followed in mining for it are very primitive, and probably capable of much improvement.

The statistics relating to imports and exports, so far as they go, show clearly the excellence of the year's harvests. Imports decreased by $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, owing to a lesser demand for food-grains. The exports by rail, excluding coal and coke, are but trivial, those two articles together comprising 99.4 per cent. of the total quantity exported. The wealth of this Division consists in minerals, and their importance will gradually increase as means are available for opening out the country.

6. *Civil Justice*.—The number of original suits disposed of by Deputy Commissioners and Subordinate Judges was slightly more than in the last year, but of the witnesses examined, 7.5 per cent. as compared with 6.03 of the preceding year were detained over two days.

Munsifs disposed of 6,713 cases, or almost the same as in the preceding year. Of these, only about 26 per cent., somewhat less than in 1897, were contested. Though the number of witnesses examined were fewer than in 1897, yet as regards detention over two days there was a marked increase, viz., from 7.5 to 11.2, for which no reason appears to have been given.

7. *Crime, Criminal Justice, and Police*.—As might have been expected, the criminal statistics for 1898 were largely affected by the good crops of that year, though there is some reason to fear that the thieving propensities engendered by the late famine have still to be eradicated. The total number of cognisable cases reported and brought under investigation in 1897 was 11,944 as compared with 15,642 in the preceding year and 8,899 in 1896, the corresponding figures for non-cognisable crime being 3,581, 4,005, and 4,719, respectively.

The percentage of convictions in cognisable cases as compared with the preceding years fell to 61.3 from 64.8, a result which the Commissioner thinks may be due to the scarcity in 1897, when the offences brought to trial were probably simpler and the proof clearer. In non-cognisable cases the percentage improved from 64.2 in 1897 to 68.2, both of which are in marked contrast to the results of the years 1895 and 1896, the great change for the better being due, it is asserted, to the introduction of what is called the "Patna system," by which more care is exercised before granting process and speedier hearing ensured by means of a better system for distributing the work.

Although the number of witnesses examined was less than in the previous year, yet the percentage of detentions for more than two days rose from 4.7 to 6.5. These figures, the Commissioner considers, indicate not deterioration in work, but a more careful keeping of the register of attendance. It would seem, however, that both causes have led to the result denoted, judging by what the Commissioner states with reference to the result denoted, judging by what the Commissioner states with reference to the tendency on the part of certain Deputy Magistrates to look upon their work as being limited only to a fixed number of hours, due notice of which will, when the necessity occurs, be taken in the Appointment Department.

The explanations of the two officers named by the Commissioner should be taken and forwarded to Government with such remarks as the Deputy Commissioner concerned may think fit to make.

The number of cases disposed of by Honorary Magistrates was 1,564, and the Lieutenant-Governor observes with pleasure the large number of gentlemen who have voluntarily given so much of their time to the administration of public business.

The results as regards cases committed to the Sessions compare most favourably with those of 1897.

The Lieutenant-Governor has read with much pleasure the remarks concerning the conduct of the police, from which it would appear that, as compared with last year, there have been fewer punishments and more rewards, and considers that, looking at the difficulty in the way of regular and close supervision owing to the want of good communications and the large areas in charge of individuals, the behaviour of the force has on the whole been very satisfactory.

Through the efforts of the Deputy Commissioner, the financial condition of the Rural Police Fund in Manbhum has been much improved, but in Hazaribagh an administrative mistake resulted in a short collection.

8. *Land Revenue Administration.*—The two most noticeable features as regards land revenue in this Division are the small number of estates and the extraordinary lightness of the assessment, which has not, however, had the result of markedly improving the condition of either the landlords or the peasantry. The collections were not satisfactory, a result chiefly owing to the revenue of a few estates not having been paid in.

9. *Road Cess Certificates.*—At present the annual cess demand is about seven-ninths of the current revenue demand, and in time, as the prosperity of the Division increases, will exceed it. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to see that the collections were very good, due allowance being made for the sums collected since the close of the year and the unpunctuality of certain estates managed under the Encumbered Estates Act.

The revaluation work, now in progress in the districts of Ranchi and Palamau, is progressing well, and will ensure a much needed increase to the funds available for local communications. For various reasons given by the Commissioner, there was a large increase in the number of certificates issued during the year.

10. *Wards' and Attached Estates.*—The number of estates in charge at the close of the year were four less than in 1897-98, and but for the persistent default of certain sub-lessees the revenue and cesses due to Government would have been paid up in full.

The collections when compared with the total current demand were satisfactory, being 93·2 per cent. of the latter as against 88 in the preceding year. Owing to their general state of indebtedness, very little was spent on improvements in these estates, but the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the instructions laid down in last year's Resolution on this subject will be carefully followed.

11. *Excise; Stamps; Income-tax.*—As was to be expected from the well-known drinking propensities of the aboriginal races, who form so large a proportion of the population in this Division, the bountiful harvests of the year caused an increase in the excise revenue. This amounted to 10 per cent., and was almost wholly under the head of country spirits. The decision of the Board not to extend to some other castes the privilege of home-brewing *pachwai*, now enjoyed by 16 aboriginal and semi-aboriginal castes, meets with His Honour's approval.

The detection work of the Department is very disappointing, for there is much reason to believe that the illicit manufacture of country spirits is of frequent occurrence in the wilder parts of this Division.

For different causes, but chiefly from the smaller need of petty loans owing to the cheapness of food, there was a slight decrease, amounting to a little over 1 per cent. as compared with last year, in the revenue from stamps.

There was a slight increase in the revenue from income-tax, due wholly to the care taken by the assessor in Manbhum, but the total yield from this source as compared with the area of the Division is small.

12. *Railways and Communications.*—The great need, as before remarked, in this region is better communications, and this by degrees is being provided. The Sini-Midnapore section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was opened during the year, and the Baroon-Daltonganj Railway is in progress, but very much still remains to be done. The increase in the road cess demand, which will result from the revaluation proceedings now in progress in Palamau, will assist in remedying the defect complained of last year by the Deputy Commissioner. The practicability of low-arched viaducts at the crossings over the Damudar and Barakar rivers should be reported on separately. More progress might be made in planting trees on the high roads.

13. *Education.*—The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that the decrease in the number of public schools and pupils which happened last year has now been converted into an increase, coming almost entirely under the head of lower primary. This is what would be expected in a Division where the demand for secondary education, owing to the paucity of the well-to-do classes, is so slight, but why the cost per pupil for the Division should have increased is not apparent.

14. *Dispensaries and Hospitals.*—The Lieutenant-Governor is very glad to see that the number of out-patients steadily increases year by year; and has read with much pleasure the remarks concerning the Purulia Leper Asylum, the good work of which he had, during his tour, an opportunity of seeing. Recently orders have been issued by Government in the case of rural dispensaries which, it is hoped, will check the marked falling off in voluntary subscriptions that steadily lessen year by year.

15. *Local Self-Government Institutions.*—The Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the various Municipalities and Road Cess Committees have done all that was possible with the funds at their disposal, and is glad to see that through the energies of Mr. W. H. Thomson, Deputy Magistrate, the affairs of the Chaibassa Municipality have been so much improved. It has been decided to extend the Local Self-Government to this Division, and the necessary details are now being worked out.

16. *State of Public Feeling.*—Nothing of general interest occurred in the districts of Hazaribagh, Manbhum, and Palamau; while in Ranchi the signs of unrest, which had been so apparent among the Mundas, have greatly abated, though their pretensions have not been abandoned. It is to be hoped that the revision of the Chota Nagpur Landlord and Tenant Act, which is now engaging the attention of Government, will settle justly some vexed questions.

17. *Conclusion.*—The Lieutenant-Governor desires to thank Mr. Forbes for his careful and successful administration of this Division and for his excellent report, extracts from which are published below for general information.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Extracts from the Annual General Administration Report of the Chota Nagpur Division for the year 1898-99.

III.—WEATHER AND CROPS.

27. The general character of the weather during the past year is illustrated by the following statement showing the actual as compared with the normal rainfall, month by month, in each district :—

MONTH.	Hazaribagh.		Ranchi.		Palamau.		Manbhum.		Singhbhum.		Average for the Division.	
	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.	Actual.	Normal.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
April 1898	0'12	0'33	0'57	0'50	0'14	0'16	0'42	0'98	1'60	0'92	0'57	0'57
May	0'49	2'71	1'76	2'81	0'25	1'22	2'15	3'13	2'68	3'59	1'46	2'75
June	12'95	7'58	12'75	8'11	5'57	6'44	15'95	8'93	11'00	9'18	11'85	8'05
July	11'87	14'36	16'28	13'63	18'13	14'15	12'72	13'37	10'69	13'37	13'94	13'77
August	14'10	13'45	14'49	13'67	13'76	14'05	15'02	13'25	13'71	12'41	14'32	13'37
September	13'76	8'51	9'51	8'78	8'43	7'82	11'09	7'79	9'20	7'86	10'40	8'15
October	1'63	3'44	1'53	2'42	1'46	2'78	2'97	2'02	3'50	2'07	2'23	2'85
November	...	0'38	...	0'42	...	0'31	...	0'47	...	0'71	...	0'46
December	0'30	0'19	0'44	0'23	0'07	0'27	0'01	0'16	0'25	0'28	0'19	0'23
January 1899	1'36	0'58	1'00	0'62	0'46	0'70	1'02	0'49	0'55	0'41	0'88	0'56
February	0'18	0'83	0'44	0'74	0'14	0'50	0'25	0'86	0'05	0'94	0'21	0'79
March	...	0'87	...	1'15	...	0'60	...	1'08	...	1'13	...	0'86
Total for 1898-99	55'60	53'23	58'80	53'06	48'41	49'06	62'10	53'11	53'23	54'07	55'46	52'61
Total for 1897-98	48'17	53'20	48'91	53'06	47'41	49'06	49'83	53'11	43'55	54'07	47'59	52'61

28. It will be seen that the rainfall in every district, except Palamau, was considerably heavier than in the preceding year, and that except in Palamau and Singhbhum it was several inches above the normal, the average for the Division being 3'33 inches in excess, whilst in the above two districts the deficiency was very slight, being less than an inch in each case. But the point to be chiefly noticed is the generally favourable distribution, month by month, for agricultural purposes. In the majority of the districts there was sufficient rain in April and May to enable the lands to be ploughed in good time, while the monsoon rains, having commenced with a good burst about the end of the second week of June, continued with full force well into October, with the result that the outturn of the *bhadori* crops, such as Indian-corn, goondli, marua, baroi and urid, was generally above the average, varying from a minimum of 100 per cent. in Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Palamau, to a maximum of 120 per cent. in Singhbhum. The winter rice crop fared even better, being a bumper one in Palamau (125 per cent.), Manbhum (125 per cent.), and Singhbhum (120 per cent.), and a full normal one in the other two districts. Of the *rañi* crops the outturn of the oilseeds was up to or slightly over the average, excepting only in Palamau, while that of wheat varied from a 75 per cent. outturn in Palamau to 105 per cent. in Manbhum, giving a divisional average of just over 90 per cent. of a full normal crop.

29. On the whole, from an agricultural point of view, the past year was a particularly good one, better even in some respects than the unusually favourable year immediately preceding. Taking the Division as a whole, the autumn and spring crops were either above or nearly up to the average, while the winter rice, the main stay of the people, was an exceptionally good one. The *mohua*, too, which largely adds to the food-supply of the poorer classes, was also everywhere unusually good, the average yield for the Division during the past year having been 104 per cent. against 77 and 58 per cent., respectively, in the two preceding years. The yield of sugarcane was also decidedly better than that of either of the two preceding years. The outturn of opium alone was below that of the previous year, but this is grown only in portions of two out of the five districts comprised in this Division.

IV.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

30. The general health of the Division during the past year was unusually good. Not only was the mortality from all causes much less than during the previous year, but the year was on the whole even healthier than 1893, the

healthiest of the six preceding years, and the Division generally enjoyed an almost entire immunity from epidemics of cholera and small-pox. Cholera was entirely absent from Palamau, whilst in the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhum, and Singhbhum, the reported deaths from this cause were only 60, 25, 188, and 104, respectively, against 6,386, 8,980, 8,365, and 1,010 in the preceding year. In the first three districts the cases were all sporadic in their nature. In Singhbhum the attack was somewhat more violent, but it only lasted for a short time and was confined to a few villages bordering Midnapore, whence it is said to have been imported. The mortality from fever also showed a very marked falling off, especially in Hazaribagh.

31. The following statement compares the mortality of the several districts during the past seven years :—

DISTRICT.	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS IN—							RATIO PER MILE IN—						
	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Hazaribagh ...	40,300	24,286	40,053	34,034	41,056	54,030	22,721	34.61	24.29	39.65	32.90	35.26	40.13	19.51
Ranchi ...	42,509	24,757	36,180	28,319	35,780	52,479	20,896	37.47	21.38	32.06	23.04	31.09	46.49	18.01
Palamau ...	23,292	16,926	20,309	16,528	18,094	23,522	18,245	39.05	28.35	44.18	27.09	30.30	39.41	27.22
Manbhum ...	30,078	21,534	33,843	31,769	34,029	39,074	19,614	25.20	18.04	28.36	30.62	28.61	32.74	16.43
Singhbhum ...	10,554	9,155	14,290	12,180	13,211	12,264	9,420	19.34	16.78	26.20	22.33	24.21	22.48	17.20
Total ...	146,533	100,655	156,744	126,530	142,162	183,375	88,905	31.65	21.74	35.96	27.33	30.71	39.64	19.20

32. The number of reported deaths from cholera, small-pox, and fever during the past two years is compared below :—

DISTRICTS.	DEATHS IN 1897 FROM—			DEATHS IN 1898 FROM—		
	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh ...	6,386	280	41,068	60	36	17,941
Ranchi ...	8,980	11	23,295	25	164	11,170
Palamau ...	3,945	251	16,504	...	243	12,870
Manbhum ...	8,365	84	23,876	188	...	14,861
Singhbhum ...	1,010	22	9,332	104	89	7,490
Total ...	28,686	648	114,067	377	532	64,332

V.—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

33. With the return of agricultural prosperity, the material condition of the people during the past year has everywhere very much changed for the better.

34. Writing on this subject, Mr. Streatfeild, the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, says :—

“The material condition of the people during the year under report was unusually good. By the close of the preceding year almost all traces of the scarcity, resulting from the failure of crops in 1896-97, had passed away, owing to the good rice harvest of 1897-98. The crops of the year under report were even better—in fact unusually good all round. Judging by the number of marriages and the unceasing dancing and drumming of the aboriginal population, their prosperity was in proportion. The sale of liquor was also unusually good, though, as a proof of the general prosperity, it is noticeable that the *abkars* constantly complained to me that the people had so much rice that every one was drinking rice-beer to the neglect of the liquor shops.”

35. Regarding Palamau, Mr. Beachcroft writes:—

"Not knowing Palamau before the famine I cannot say whether the people have reached their normal condition, but everywhere I found signs of prosperity. The only districts of which I have any acquaintance are the Bihar districts, and the people of Palamau appear to enjoy a greater measure of prosperity than I ever saw in Bihar. The crops this year have been excellent, and the general prosperity of the district is evidenced by the fact that the greater part of the loans advanced in the famine has been repaid, and that at the time of writing weddings, with the reckless expenditure inseparable from them, are all the fashion."

36. From Hazaribagh, Manbhum, and Singhbhum the reports are all to the same effect, and go to show that, with the excellent harvests of the last two years, the people have everywhere recovered from the effects of the former scarcity, nor is this a mere matter of opinion. If proofs are needed, we have only to look at the wonderful improvement in the general health of the people and at the fact of marked falling off in the number of emigrants in search of work in the labour districts of Assam (*vide* sections IV and VI of this report).

VI.—EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

37. The number of emigrants recruited and registered under Act I of 1882 during the past two years in the district of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhum, and Singhbhum is given below. There were no emigrants registered under the Act in the district of Palamau, where only comparatively a few coolies are reported to have been recruited under the free labour system in the jurisdiction of thanas Balumath, Latehar, and Mahuadaur for the tea districts of Jalpaiguri and Assam:—

District.	1897-98.	1898-99.
Hazaribagh	3,729	944
Ranchi	9,488	4,207
Manbhum	13,022*	4,627*
Singhbhum	229	121
Total	26,468	9,899

38. As might be expected with the excellent harvests of the past two years and the inevitable reaction after the rush of emigration during the previous period of scarcity, there was a considerable reduction in the number of emigrants from all the districts. The decrease in Singhbhum was also probably due to the facilities for obtaining work on the new railway line in Dhalbhum and on timber business in Porahat. In Manbhum 66 coolies withdrew their consent at the time of registration and were repatriated at the cost of the agents who had brought them.

39. Besides the coolies recruited and registered under Act I of 1882, a considerable number of emigrants leave these districts for Assam and Jalpaiguri every year under the free labour system. The exact number of such emigrants cannot be ascertained, as many of them are recruited by persons who pay temporary visits to the several districts for the purpose and of whose movements the authorities receive no information. From returns obtained from the local contractors permanently stationed in the districts, it appears, however, that during the past year there was also a considerable reduction in the number of free emigrants recruited by them, the total number from the four districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhum, and Singhbhum having fallen off to 4,434 from 19,285 in the previous year. The figures for the above districts are given below:—

District.	1897-98.	1898-99.
Hazaribagh	2,844	1,448
Ranchi	1,859	630
Manbhum	14,201	2,090
Singhbhum	381	266
Total	19,285	4,434

* These are for the calendar year.

40. The figures for the district of Singhbhum include only those who passed through Chaibassa, as those recruited near the railway lines and from Dhalbhum go direct to Purulia or to Midnapore.

41. In Hazaribagh no emigrants were presented under Act I (B.C.) of 1882. There were, however, three cases in which emigrants were the accusers. In one of these cases, under section 363, Indian Penal Code, the accused was convicted and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment. In the second case, under section 417, Indian Penal Code, the accused was sentenced to one month's rigorous imprisonment. In the third case, under section 342, Indian Penal Code, four persons were involved, but they were all acquitted. Besides these there were five other cases involving six persons under section 3, Act I (B.C.) of 1889, all of whom were convicted. In Ranchi 12 cases were instituted in which emigrants were the accusers, but only two of them ended in conviction. In Manbhum there was one case during the year in which an emigrant was accused, but this case is reported to have been struck off. There were also 34 cases in this district in which emigrants were the accusers. Of these 25 were tried during the year, one was struck off and eight remained pending at the close of the year. In the 25 cases tried, 41 persons were concerned, of whom 26 were convicted and 15 acquitted. In Singhbhum 10 cases of malpractices in connection with the recruiting of emigrants were instituted during the year, of which three only ended in conviction.

42. The rest-houses and depôts in the several districts were well maintained during the year, and the arrangements made for the accommodation, food, supply of drinking-water, and sanitation of the coolies were generally good and sufficient. The general health of the coolies was also good. Only one case of cholera and three cases of small-pox occurred during the year in three of the depôts in Manbhum. The cholera case ended fatally, but the small-pox patients recovered.

43. In the Hazaribagh Sadar subdivision the depôts and rest-houses, including those for free emigrants, were inspected monthly during the recruiting season by the Deputy Magistrate in charge, while those in the Giridih subdivision were regularly inspected by the Subdivisional Officer, the Police Inspector and the Assistant Surgeon. In Ranchi Mr. Streatfeild personally inspected all the depôts and rest-houses. Several of the depôts in Manbhum were inspected on two occasions by myself, and the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Maguire, inspected one of the depôts on the 28th November last in company with His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. In Singhbhum the Deputy Commissioner paid occasional visits to all depôts and rest-houses in his district.

The amendment of the Inland Emigration Act, I of 1882, came under discussion during the year. The subject was reported on in this office Nos. 216T.J., 35J., and 38J., dated 14th February, 20th and 22nd April 1899, respectively, and need not be further noticed here.

IMMIGRATION.

44. There was no appreciable immigration in the districts of Ranchi and Palamau. In Hazaribagh 124 persons are said to have immigrated from the neighbouring districts. As reported in the previous year, immigration into the district of Manbhum was confined to the coolies attracted by the collieries in the Gobindpur subdivision from Bihar and the North-Western Provinces, but no statistics of their numbers are available. In pargana Dhalbhum in Singhbhum there has been a steady influx of Sonthals for some years past.

VII.—PRICES OF FOOD AND LABOUR.

45. Owing to the very favourable outturn of the crops during the successive seasons, the prices of all food-grains ruled much lower during the past than in either the two preceding years. The following statement shows the average prices of wheat, common rice and gram in the several districts during

the last fortnight of March 1899 as compared with the corresponding periods of the two preceding years:—

DISTRICT.	WHEAT.			COMMON RICE.			GRAM.		
	March 1897.	March 1898.	March 1899.	March 1897.	March 1898.	March 1899.	March 1897.	March 1898.	March 1899.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.	S. CH.
Hazaribagh	8 9	10 14	15 7	8 12	12 6	17 18	11 2	14 8	23 3
Ranchi	8 8	8 0	18 0	8 4	12 0	20 0	9 8	9 8	20 0
Palamau	9 13	14 1	21 6	8 2	13 0	20 4	11 13	18 9	28 11
Manbhum	8 8	10 0	13 11	9 7	15 0	21 0	9 6	11 6	18 0
Singhbhum	9 12	8 0	8 0	12 14	12 0	16 14	11 0	8 2	9 0
Divisional average ...	8 15	10 3	15 1	9 8	12 14	19 3	10 9	12 5	19 13

46. As usual during the first five months of the year, viz., from April to August, there was the usual comparative tightness in prices, though nowhere did the price of common rice rise higher than 10 seers per rupee, while throughout the greater portion of the Division it ranged from 12 to 15 seers per rupee. From September and October, when the early rice crop began to be harvested and the prospects of the winter rice were assured, prices began to fall, and by the end of March the average price of common rice in the Division was 19 seers 3 chitaks per rupee against only 12 $\frac{7}{8}$ seers and 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ seers, respectively, in the corresponding periods of the two previous years. The prices of wheat and gram also eased in proportion, except in Singhbhum, where owing to special causes there was little change in the price of gram, notwithstanding the excellence of its outturn. As regards this last staple, Mr. Thomson writes:—

“The Kols think they should get the last famine year’s prices, and they frequently carry home the gram they have brought from long distances rather than abate their demand. By this means they have kept the price of gram and such other grains as are not much used at an artificially high rate.”

In outlying parts of the Division, such as the remotest parts of the Ranchi district, 32 seers, or even a maund of husked rice, was obtainable for a rupee in January, and even in May (of the current year) it could be had in many places at 24 to 26 seers per rupee. The *mohua* crop in this district has also been very plentiful, and Mr. Streatfeild writes that recently he found that in pargana Biru it could be obtained at from 5 to even 10 maunds per rupee, or for scarcely more than the mere cost of carriage.

47. Wages of labour have remained almost unchanged, except in the municipal towns and railway stations in Manbhum and the tract through which the Sini-Midnapore section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway runs through the district of Singhbhum. But it is not a matter for any surprise that the demand for both skilled and unskilled labour should be greater than the supply in those places, and this will probably be the case for some time to come.

VIII.—MANUFACTURES AND MINES.

48. The chief industries of the Division are—

- (1) Collection of jungle products, viz., lac, catechu, sabai grass and tusser cocoons.
- (2) Collection of hides and horns.
- (3) Manufacture of shell-lac.
- (4) Cultivation and manufacture of tea.
- (5) Manufacture of tusser cloths, coarse cloths, and brass and bell-metal utensils and ornaments.
- (6) Coal and mica-mining.

49. Lac, catechu, sabai grass and tusser cocoons abound in the jungles and are largely exported. Hides and horns are also collected all over the Division, and are exported in large numbers.

50. Lac is produced all over the Division, but it is only in the districts of Ranchi and Manbhum that there are factories for the manufacture of shell-lac. The industry slightly recovered from the depression it had undergone during the previous

Manufactures.

year, and the wholesale price is reported to have risen by about Rs. 10 per maund. In Ranchi five factories were working against only two in the preceding year, giving an outturn of 3,850 maunds. In Manbhum the outturn is estimated at 14,000 maunds valued at Rs. 5,60,000 at the rate of Rs. 40 per maund against 13,000 maunds valued at Rs. 3,90,000 at Rs. 30 per maund in the previous year. The Deputy Commissioner of the district, however, remarks "that the local industry has declined, and the future is not very hopeful."

51. There are altogether 26 tea-gardens, viz., 5 in Hazaribagh and 21 in Ranchi. In Hazaribagh returns were received from four gardens, and the total quantity of tea manufactured in them aggregated 49,680 lbs. against 36,200 lbs. in the preceding year. In Ranchi returns were received from 20 of the gardens, the total quantity of tea manufactured in which aggregated 1,009,190 lbs. against 931,695½ lbs. in the preceding year. Writing on the condition of the tea cultivation in this district, Mr. Streatfeild, the Deputy Commissioner, remarks:—

"The weather during the year was not very favourable for tea cultivation, and the long drought in the spring resulted in the crop being a short one; prices ruled low as usual, though the Palandu tea garden had an unusually good sale."

I very much fear, however, that for the reasons noticed in last year's report the prospects of the tea industry in Chota Nagpur are not hopeful.

52. Regarding the local native manufactures, I have nothing to add to the information given in paragraph 51 of last year's report beyond noting that there has apparently been a slight revival in the industry of weaving tusser cloths amongst the *tantis* of Raghunathpur and Singbazar, in the Manbhum district, the total outturn being reported at 48,000 yards of cloth as compared with 36,000 yards during the preceding year. I may here mention that during my tour in the Native States I found native looms in many of the villages, the cloth in common use by the lower classes there being almost entirely of local make.

53. The coal mining industry is of steadily increasing importance in this Division. At present it is confined to the subdivisions of Giridih and Gobindpur in the Hazaribagh and Manbhum districts, respectively, as these are the only parts of the Division where the coal measures are accessible by rail. But with the opening of the Daltonganj-Baroon Railway on which work is now in progress, the Palamau coal-fields will become available for use; while the projected line up the Damuda valley, the necessity for which has so often been pressed upon Government by the local officers and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, would throw open the resources of the valuable Kamakuru coal measures and of other parts of the interior of the Division which are now inaccessible. In this connection I would draw attention to the great activity apparent at present in developing the coal industry in this part of the country. During the past year, with the sanction of the Board of Revenue, I have granted two important coaling concessions in the Pachete Encumbered Estate in Manbhum to the Equitable Coal Company, Limited, and another comprising the coal-fields in the Katras Estate, in the same district, to two new Companies, viz., the Nawaghar Coal Company and the Luthepur Coal Company, lately formed for the purpose by Messrs. Bird and Company, of Calcutta. Another application by the Bengal Coal Company for the grant of the coal mining rights in 35 other villages in the Manbhum district has since been filed, and I may mention as a noticeable fact that this concession is only asked for *in prospect* of the part of the country where these villages are situate being opened up by a railway, and one stipulation made is that the annual payment of the minimum rate of royalty to be fixed under the lease is to be deferred until the coal-fields have in this manner been rendered accessible. Many other similar cases may be cited to show the desirability of opening up the interior of the Chota Nagpur Division, by improved means of communication, with a view to the proper development of its immense mineral resources.

54. Of the existing groups of collieries in this Division, four, including six mines, are at or near to Giridih, the head-quarters of the subdivision of that name in the Hazaribagh district. Of these three are worked by European

agencies and the fourth by a native company. In the Govindpur subdivision in the Manbhum district there are as many as 130 to 140 mines, most of the larger of which are worked by the Bengal, Equitable, Ranigunge, Katras Jheria, East India, Barrakar, Bengal-Nagpur and other European Coal Companies, but by far the larger number are small mines under native supervision. There are also numerous coal-pits in the Sadar subdivision of Hazaribagh in the basin of the Damodar river, but these owing to absence of railway communication are only superficially worked for local requirements, such as brick-burning and similar purposes. Some of this coal finds its way, by cart, into the Ranchi district. The following table gives the output in tons and the number of work-people employed in the coal mines of Giridih and Gobindpur during the past three years:—

SUBDIVISION.	Output in—			Daily average number of work-people in—		
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1896.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Giridih ...	Tons. 666,995	Tons. 664,694	Tons. 656,306	11,215	11,039	9,656
Gobindpur ...	562,990	417,588	883,390	15,392	8,075	12,928
Total ...	1,229,985	1,082,282	1,539,696	26,607	19,114	22,584

There was a large advance of nearly 40 per cent. in output, owing to prices ruling high, and it would probably have been still larger had sufficient means of transport been available.

55. The mica mining industry is confined to the district of Hazaribagh. All the mica mines are situated in the northern portion of pargana Kharakdiha, most of them lying in the Koderma Government Estate and in the Doranda and Satgawan Encumbered Estates. All the mines in these estates have been leased out in accordance with the Government orders and rules on the subject. Altogether 33 new mines were settled at an aggregate rental of Rs. 1,682-5-2, the settlement in each case being for one year only. Ninety-six old mines were resettled for a term of five years at an aggregate rental of Rs. 3,863. Besides these there are a number of mines in private estates, the greater number of which are worked by Messrs. F. F. Christien and Company. The total output of all mica mines worked during the year, including those in the private estates, was reported at 5,886 maunds against 10,797 in the preceding year. The Deputy Commissioner offers no explanation of the large falling off beyond saying that he much doubts the trustworthiness of the above figures.

56. No gold mine was worked in the Division during the year under review. The Sonapet gold mine remained closed during the year, but some experiments were made by an expert, Mr. Fearby, sent out by the Anglo-Indian Exploration Syndicate to test and report on all the places where gold have been found in Sonapet. Mr. Fearby's researches continued for about three months and-a-half, and though he discovered gold in several places, the conclusion he came to was "that there is nothing at Sonapet for a Company to work." Messrs. Jardine, Skinner and Company did nothing under their prospecting lease for gold in Porahat in Singhbhum, and appear to have practically given up the enterprise. Mr. Barton, who had been granted a prospecting lease for minerals in this district, has not commenced work.

57. The only tin mines known to exist in this Division are at Narango in the Giridih subdivision in Hazaribagh. These mines were not, however, worked during the year under review.

58. No copper mines were worked during the year in any part of the Division, but Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot and Company, who held a prospecting lease for copper in Dhalbhum, have obtained an extension of it for two years.

59. Some recent attempts have been made in Manbhum to work iron ores, and a Company have taken out a mining lease and opened works at the Kustaur hills. I am also at present engaged in negotiations with the Bengal Iron Company, Agents Messrs. Martin and Company, for an extensive prospecting lease in the Pachete Encumbered Estate in Manbhum.

60. There are some soap-stone quarries in the Dhalbhum Estate in Singhbhum leased to private individuals. Some of these quarries were worked by shafts.

61. Stone-lime is worked in Manbhum near the Ramkanali station on the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, and at Dumargari in Ranchi near to Augara thana on the Ranchi-Purulia road.

IX.—TRADE AND COMMERCE.

62. In paragraphs 58 to 60 of my last year's report I gave a detailed account of the trade routes of this Division, and pointed out how small a fraction of the divisional area is accessible to railway traffic. During the past year the construction of the Sini-Midnapore section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway brought the eastern portion of the Singhbhum district within the reach of civilisation, and the Baroon-Daltonganj branch of the East Indian Railway will, in another year or two, effect the same for the western half of Palamau, but there will still remain a large tract of country in the interior of the Division completely isolated from the outer world.

63. The following statement gives the figures of the rail-borne import and export trade of the Division in the 24 selected articles during the past two years:—

ARTICLES.	IMPORTS—								EXPORTS—							
	By rail.		By Nadia rivers.		By canal.		Total.		By rail.		By Nadia rivers.		By canal.		Total.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Wheat	4,71,761	1,46,400	...	...	...	...	4,71,761	1,46,400	91,009	1,24,196	...	...	...	...	91,009	1,24,196
Paddy	23,850	1,200	...	...	...	...	23,850	1,200	237	391	...	...	...	...	237	391
Gram and pulse	18,087	9,985	...	...	...	...	18,087	9,985	92	...	...	...	...	...	92	...
Other food-grains	1,40,963	1,19,101	...	...	...	...	1,40,963	1,19,101	27,991	8,330	...	...	...	...	27,991	8,330
Raw cotton	9,681	3,118	...	...	...	...	9,681	3,118	643	55	...	...	...	...	643	55
Raw jute	407	327	...	...	...	...	407	327	500	115	...	...	...	...	500	115
Raw silk	13,406	15,739	...	...	...	...	13,406	15,739	4,872	2,154	...	...	...	...	4,872	2,154
Raw wool	1,089	17	...	...	...	...	1,089	17	4,336	13,021	...	...	...	...	4,336	13,021
Raw hides	8,616	300	...	...	...	...	8,616	300	47,260	50,850	...	...	...	...	47,260	50,850
Raw skins	186	128	...	...	...	...	186	128	5,933	3,940	...	...	...	...	5,933	3,940
Raw bones	810	1,046	...	...	...	...	810	1,046	88	6,132	...	...	...	...	88	6,132
Raw hair	624	217	...	...	...	...	624	217	9,648	6,169	...	...	...	...	9,648	6,169
Raw tallow	2,885	2,740	...	...	...	...	2,885	2,740	27	...	...	...	...	...	27	...
Raw sugar	43,105	61,306	...	...	...	...	43,105	61,306	9,153	7,768	...	...	...	...	9,153	7,768
Raw gum	893	518	...	...	...	...	893	518	38	21	...	...	...	...	38	21
Raw resins	30,113	34,110	...	...	...	...	30,113	34,110	214	260	...	...	...	...	214	260
Raw oils	3	25	...	...	...	...	3	25	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Raw hides, in bales	37,590	45,696	...	...	...	...	37,590	45,696	103	9	...	...	...	...	103	9
Raw hides, in boxes	516	351	...	...	...	...	516	351	8	5	...	...	...	...	8	5
Raw hides, in bales	2,864	3,399	...	...	...	...	2,864	3,399	210	247	...	...	...	...	210	247
Raw hides, in boxes	13	32	...	...	...	...	13	32	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	15
Raw hides, in bales	1,194	1,346	...	...	...	...	1,194	1,346	91	111	...	...	...	...	91	111
Raw hides, in boxes	39,470	40,846	...	...	...	...	39,470	40,846	193	219	...	...	...	...	193	219
Raw hides, in bales	4,44,428	4,33,953	...	...	...	...	4,44,428	4,33,953	897	508	...	...	...	...	897	508
Raw hides, in boxes	40,517	40,961	...	...	...	...	40,517	40,961	283	358	...	...	...	...	283	358
Raw hides, in bales	4,31,391	4,44,284	...	...	...	...	4,31,391	4,44,284	4,03,71,638	4,19,77,013	...	...	...	...	4,03,71,638	4,19,77,013
Total	17,75,899	14,16,533	...	...	...	...	17,75,899	14,16,533	4,03,75,639	4,22,03,962	...	...	...	...	4,03,75,639	4,22,03,962

Compared with the previous year, there was an increase of 16,27,323 maunds in the total quantity of the 24 selected articles exported from the Division by rail and a decrease of 3,59,366 maunds in the quantity imported. Including coke and coal, which represented about 99·4 per cent., of the total quantity of the 24 articles exported, the volume of the total rail-borne trade of the Division was nearly thirty times as large as that of the import trade, while excluding coke and coal, the exports amounted to only 2,25,949 maunds against 9,72,269 maunds of imports.

64. As might have been expected with the favourable outturn of most of the crops, there was a marked decrease in the importation of rice and other food-grains, the total quantities of rice, paddy, wheat, gram and pulse and "other food-grains"

imported having been 1,46,400, 1,290, 9,985, 1,19,101 and 3,118 maunds against 4,71,761, 23,850, 15,057, 1,40,963 and 9,661 maunds, respectively, in the previous year: the decrease in the importation of wheat is further explained by the fact that the cultivation of this crop is gradually gaining a footing in the Division. With the increased prosperity of the people, there were increases of 18,416 and 7,941 maunds, respectively, in the importation of sugar (refined and unrefined) and of European cotton-piece goods, whilst cotton twists also show an increase of 10,528 maunds. There was a large falling off in the importation of linseed and mustard seed, probably because the demand for these articles from districts lying outside the Division altogether ceased with the harvesting of the oilseed crops, which in ordinary years are generally exported from the Division instead of being imported into it. There was a decline in the importation of tobacco, kerosine oil, and salt, which is attributed by some of the District Officers to the importations in previous years being in excess of requirements. This explanation might, perhaps, apply to salt, as the importation of this article in the preceding year was considerably larger than usual, but it cannot hold good in the case of the other two articles named, which show a falling off for two or three years running. It may be that tobacco is more grown in these districts than formerly, and that the improved outturn of oilseeds has encouraged the use of vegetable oils. Had the reason been a greater all-round economy amongst the people, one would have expected a similar falling off in the imports of sugar, cotton goods, &c., but, as noticed above, the reverse has been the case.

65. Among exports, barring coke and coal, the chief article is rice, which shows an increase of 33,187 maunds, and after it comes mustard seed with 50,886 maunds against 47,230 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of linseed exported during the year rose from 4,336 maunds to 13,921 maunds, and that of raw cotton from 88 to 5,132 maunds. The large increase in the export of this last-named article probably indicates the opening of a new branch of trade in the Division. On the other hand, there was a large falling off in the exports of gram and pulse (8,330 maunds against 27,991 maunds), Indian tea (3,940 maunds against 5,933 maunds), and unrefined sugar (7,768 maunds against 9,152 maunds).

66. As reported in the previous year, the principal internal trade routes of the Division are the metalled roads already mentioned between Ranchi and Hazaribagh to the railway stations at Purulia and Giridih, respectively; the Grand Trunk Road, which runs through the Gobindpur subdivision of Manbhum and the Hazaribagh district; metalled roads between Ranchi and Hazaribagh (58 miles) from Ranchi to Lohardaga (47 miles), the principal mart on the Ranchi plateau, and in the Singhbhum district from Chaibassa to the Bengal-Nagpur Railway station at Chakradharpur, 16 miles; and unmetalled roads from the town of Lohardaga to the equally important mart, Chatra, in Hazaribagh, passing on northwards to the Grand Trunk Road, and thus giving an exit into the Gaya district. Traffic by the above routes, excepting the last, is by bullock-carts, which are hired for the most part from Bihar and the Burdwan and Bankura districts. Along the last of the above routes goods are carried by pack-bullocks, as is the case with most of the interior trade of all the districts. Palamau is especially badly off in the matter of communications and carriage. There is no metalled road and scarcely a bullock-cart in the district, practically the whole of the trade being carried on pack-bullocks.

67. In the Ranchi district the principal trade centres are Ranchi and Lohardaga. There is also a large weekly cattle fair and general bazar at Gumla, which place has been selected as the site for the new subdivision lately sanctioned by Government. The principal articles of export from the Ranchi district are rice, oilseeds, *mahua*, hides and horns, and lac. Of the extent of this trade no reliable figures are available, but from the rough statistics sent in by the thana police it can safely be said that there was a very considerable increase in the trade in most of these commodities over that of the preceding year. To the Lohardaga and Chainpur marts alone some 15,000 pack-bullocks are reported to have come for rice for the Palamau, Hazaribagh, and Gaya

districts. It is to be hoped that this large grain-producing tract will be opened out within the next few years by the branch railway in connection with the Damodar Valley project, which has been lately recommended to the Government of India. There was also a large export of sleepers by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway from the zamindari estates in the south of the district, but I have not been supplied with particulars (now being asked for).

68. Regarding the trade of Palaman, the Deputy Commissioner reports as follows :—

The principal centres of trade in the district are Daltonganj, Gurhwa, Pathra, Chainpur, Hariharganj, Hossenabad, Sonepura, Satbarwa, Panki, Nagar, Manjhiwara and Hydernagar. Gurhwa comes first in point of importance, owing to the fact that it commands three different routes of trade. The first is the route to the Tributary State of Sirguja; the second is that leading to the district of Mirzapur; and the third is that coming from Calcutta *via* Baroon-on-Sone and from Shahabad *via* Akbarpur. Daltonganj comes next in importance, being the district head-quarters and the distributing centres of the markets near it. Through Hossenabad and Hariharganj pass the trade of Gurhwa and Daltonganj, respectively, whence arises this importance. The others are local depôts distributing the trade to the numerous weekly markets throughout the district.

The principal articles of export from the district are lac, resin, catechu, cocoons, hides, oilseeds, ghee and cotton, and the articles imported chiefly are rice, brass utensils, piece-goods, salt, tobacco, spices and kerosine oil."

69. The trade of the district is at present mostly carried by pack-bullocks; that from the centres mentioned by the Deputy Commissioner to the interior marts entirely so. There is not a metalled road in the district, but there are a few unmetalled roads leading out of the district, viz., from Daltonganj *via* Hariharganj to Gaya (101 miles), from Ghurwa to Baroon (opposite to Dehri-on-the-Sone), and from Daltonganj to Ranchi (103 miles), which are used for cart traffic during the dry months. It is evident that an immense impetus will be given to trade in this corner of the Division by the opening of the Baroon-Daltonganj Railway, which will pass only a few miles from Gurhwa and through or close to several of the other trade centres mentioned by the Deputy Commissioner. The only requisite will be the construction of a sufficient number of good feeder roads. The difficulty lies in the very slender funds available from the road cess for the purpose, which will have to be supplemented by a substantial grant from the Provincial revenues. A full report on the subject with a scheme of the proposed roads was submitted to Government with this office No. 338R.C., dated 8th December last.

70. Regarding the particulars of the district trade no reliable figures are available. The following, however, collected from the principal traders and other sources are given by the Deputy Commissioner for what they are worth. The figures show approximate values in rupees :—

IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
Articles.	1897-98.	1898-99.	Articles.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1. European piece-goods ...	2,17,230	2,28,408	1. Lac ...	1,73,600	3,28,900
2. Country-made saris ...	2,980	3,000	2. Ghee ...	80,430	1,35,000
3. Ditto coarse cloths ...	15,500	1,600	3. Hides ...	82,000	8,000
4. Salt ...	33,800	98,400	4. Mustard seed ...	29,013	18,600
5. Twist and yarn ...	20,400	13,600	5. Rapeseed ...	19,800	13,500
6. Brassware ...	23,000	18,000	6. Linseed ...	18,248	20,187
7. Sugar ...	14,000	20,000	7. Cotton ...	6,000	31,000
8. Tobacco ...	14,800	17,600	8. Bamboos ...	11,000	10,000
9. Kerosine oil ...	16,000	20,000	9. Catechu ...	14,800	2,500
10. Rice ...	48,400	10,000	10. Cocoons ...	146	416
			11. Resin ...	4,800	4,800
Total ...	4,47,710	4,35,800	Total ...	4,29,636	5,61,763

71. A detailed discussion of the fluctuations between the transactions of the two years would be unprofitable owing to the unreliability of the above figures; but, so far as they can be accepted for purposes of comparison, the main differences may be explained by the recovery of the district from the effects of the previous scarcity. Thus the increase in the imports of European piece-goods, salt, sugar, tobacco and kerosine oil and the decrease in the imports of rice may be safely put down to this cause, to which the Deputy Commissioner also ascribes the large increase in the exports of ghee. There has been a considerable increase in the trade in lac. The falling off in the imports of coarse country-made cloth may be due either to a revival of activity amongst the local looms, or, as is thought by the Deputy Commissioner, to the competition of the foreign article. A noticeable feature in the trade of this district is the smallness of the imports of salt. At the average accepted rate of consumption, the value of the imports of this article should be about three times that shown during the past year.* If the figures given are at all in accordance with facts, they certainly go to show the pressing necessity for opening up the country by rail and the advantage to the Government revenue that is likely to result.

* I leave out of account the very low figures for 1897-98, as they seem so low as to be incredible.

XIII.—CRIME.

87. With the return of good seasons and favourable crops, there was a large falling off in crime, both cognizable and non-cognizable, though the total number of cases reported under the head cognizable was still much larger than that of 1896. Compared with 1896, the increase in cognizable cases is observed largely in offences against property, which goes to show either that a residue of the lower classes were still in want, or that the thieving propensities acquired during the preceding scarcity could not easily be given up. The total number of cognizable cases reported and brought under investigation in 1898 was 11,944 against 15,642 in 1897 and 8,899 in 1896, while the total number of non-cognizable cases reported and brought under enquiry was 3,581 against 4,005 in 1897 and 4,719 in 1896. The decrease in cognizable crime as compared with 1897 is shared by all the districts of the Division, while that in non-cognizable crime is contributed by all, except Ranchi, which shows a very trifling increase of six cases. The following statement compares the number of cognizable and non-cognizable cases reported from, and brought under investigation in, the several districts during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.	COGNIZABLE CASES.				NON-COGNIZABLE CASES.			
	1897.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.	1897.	1898.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Hazaribagh ...	3,698	2,506	...	1,192	608	347	...	261
Ranchi ...	3,480	2,878	...	602	1,118	1,119	6	...
Palaman ...	2,052	1,391	...	661	362	358	...	4
Manbhum ...	4,390	3,419	...	977	1,336	1,271	...	65
Singhbhum ...	2,022	1,808	...	216	616	486	...	130
Total ...	15,642	11,944	...	3,648	4,005	3,581	6	424

88. The following statement shows the number of cognizable cases decided and the number in which convictions were obtained :—

DISTRICT.	CASES DECIDED.		CASES CONVICTED.		PERCENTAGE.	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh ...	1,948	1,507	1,539	1,139	79.2	76.5
Ranchi ...	1,283	1,120	860	723	67.03	64.5
Palamau ...	969	657	332	525	34.2	79.9
Manbhum ...	2,015	1,713	1,677	1,366	83.2	79.1
Singhbhum ...	1,102	987	840	819	75.3	82.9
Total ...	7,312	5,984	5,748	4,562	78.6	76.2

89. The following statement shows the total number of persons brought to trial for cognizable offences and the total number convicted in the several districts during the past two years :—

DISTRICT	PERSONS BROUGHT TO TRIAL IN—		PERSONS CONVICTED IN—		PERCENTAGE IN—	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Hazaribagh ...	3,016	2,216	2,046	1,385	67.8	61.6
Ranchi ...	2,548	2,231	1,306	1,043	51.2	46.7
Palamau ...	1,384	900	1,047	606	76.7	67.3
Manbhum ...	3,574	2,709	2,054	1,728	58.3	63.7
Singhbhum ...	1,632	1,626	1,281	1,192	78.5	73.3
Total ...	11,934	9,712	7,733	5,954	64.8	61.3

The above figures indicate that the results of trials in all the districts, except Manbhum, were less satisfactory than in the previous year. The explanation probably is that in 1897 a large portion of the offences were those occasioned by hunger in which the proof was clear and simple and the guilt not denied.

90. Out of 11,944 cognizable cases dealt with during the past year, 509, or about 4.2 per cent., were declared to be maliciously false against 3.1 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage has remained fairly constant, except in Ranchi and Palamau, where there has been a marked increase. This may possibly be attributable to the practice of too readily entering cases as "false" where, though there is obviously exaggeration, there is also a substratum of truth sufficient to bar any chance of a successful prosecution. I have elsewhere expressed my opinion that "doubtful" should be added to the two existing descriptions ("true" and "false").

91. Under class I there were altogether 123 true cases reported and brought under investigation during the past year against 152 in 1897. The decrease is shared by all the districts, except Ranchi, which shows an increase of ten cases. The majority of the cases under this class were cases of rioting connected with land disputes. Two cases of serious riots occurred in the Ranchi district, one ending in loss of life and the other in grievous hurt. In another case in Palamau guns were discharged.

92. Under class II there were altogether 404 true cases reported and investigated during the year against 388 in 1897. The increase of 16 cases was the net result of increases in Ranchi and Manbhum and of decreases in the other three districts. Taking the Division as a whole, the increase under this class is most marked in offences against women and in grievous hurt. Possibly better feeding and increased means of obtaining drink may have had some influence in these results. At the same time it is satisfactory to note that there was a marked decrease in the use of dangerous weapons.

93. Under class III the total number of true cases reported and investigated during the past year was 2,552 against 4,846 in the previous year. The decrease, which is shared by all the districts, was most marked under the two heads of dacoity and burglary, the number of reported cases under the former having decreased from 145 in 1897 to only 36 in 1898, and that under the latter from 4,644 to 2,423.

94. Under class V the number of true cases reported and investigated was 3,650 against 4,857 in 1897. The decrease under this class was also shared by all the districts, and is chiefly noticeable under the head of theft, the total number of reported cases under which fell off from 5,057 in 1897 to 3,593 in the past year.

95. Under class VI there was a net decrease of 46 in the total number of true cases, the figures for the past year having been 2,944 against 2,990 in 1897. There was greater activity shown in the detection of excise cases in all the districts, except Palamau, and in the prosecution of public and local nuisances in all, except Ranchi and Palamau. Bad characters were effectually dealt with in Hazaribagh and Singhbhum and offences against the Arms Act in Ranchi and Singhbhum. The prosecution of bad characters appears to have been much neglected in Ranchi and to some extent in Manbhum, while more strict enforcement of the Arms Act and rules seems desirable in Hazaribagh, Palamau, and Manbhum.

96. Compared with 1897, the past year showed a decrease of 23·4 per cent. in the number of cognizable cases dealt with and of 30·9 per cent. in the number of A forms sent up: but the number of A forms was still largely in excess of that of 1896. Of the 3,059 A forms sent up during the past year, 908, or about 29·9 per cent., were disposed of at first hearing, 21·2 per cent. after one remand, 15·6 per cent. after two remands, 19·9 per cent. after three to five remands, and 8 per cent. after six remands, against percentages of 29·08, 26·1, 16·2, 18·5, and 6·8 in the preceding year. The worst results were shown in Ranchi, where only about 17 per cent. of the A forms sent up were disposed of at first hearing against 22 per cent. in Hazaribagh, 45 per cent. in Palamau, 24 per cent. in Manbhum, and 47 per cent. in Singhbhum. The results of sessions trial are given below:—

DISTRICT.	Number of cases committed in the previous year, but pending at commencement of the year.	Number committed during the year.	Total number for disposal.	Number disposed of.	Number in which conviction was obtained.	Number in which sentence was modified or reversed by High Court.	Number of cases acquitted by Sessions Judge.	Number of cases otherwise disposed of.	Percentage of cases resulting in conviction to total cases disposed of.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Hazaribagh...	5	14	19	16	10	1	8	...	33·5
Ranchi...	13	18	31	31	18	...	9	...	71·0
Palamau...	1	8	9	8	6	...	1	...	33·3
Manbhum...	10	31	41	39	20	3	19	...	68·5
Singhbhum...	4	11	15	13	11	1	3	...	56·0
Total...	33	60	103	98	61	6	36	...	70·9

97. The results compare very favourably with those of 1897, in which the percentage of cases ending in conviction on the total number disposed of was only 56·2, and the maximum percentage obtained in any one district was only 66·

99. The following statement compares the number of non-cognizable cases instituted and tried in the different districts during the past two years:—

District.	Number of cases instituted in—		Number of cases actually tried in—		Number of persons tried in—		Number of persons convicted in—		Percentage of convictions in—	
	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Hazaribagh ...	604	347	893	153	500	210	327	111	65.4	52.8
Ranchi ...	1,113	1,119	600	570	689	730	375	422	53.0	57.8
Palamanu ...	362	358	122	135	164	245	106	107	64.6	68.1
Manbhum ...	1,846	1,271	656	512	776	629	510	397	65.7	63.1
Singhbhum ...	616	486	346	250	474	672	325	600	70.2	89.2
Total ...	4,005	3,591	2,022	1,690	2,553	2,480	1,646	1,637	64.4	68.2

There has been a decrease in the number of institutions everywhere, except Ranchi, which shows a trifling increase of six cases. The number of persons tried for non-cognisable offences has decreased very largely in Hazaribagh and to a small extent in Manbhum. On the other hand, the number tried in the remaining three districts has increased more or less. The percentage of convictions has increased in the majority of the districts, with the result that there has been an advance in the average divisional percentage from 64.4 in 1897 to 68.2 in 1898, and which compares particularly favourably with the percentages of 44.3 and 38.7 in the two preceding years 1896 and 1895, respectively. I attribute this improvement in a chief measure to the introduction in this Division of what is called the "Patna system" in receiving complaints and distributing the criminal work of the subordinate courts.

ROAD PATROLS.

102. There was no change in the permanent staff of the road patrol police force employed in the Division. In Hazaribagh the force consisted of 195 sardars and 315 digwars, who were stationed on the main roads and jungly tracts for the protection of travellers and the prevention of crime. During the last year a temporary patrol was established between Chatra in Hazaribagh and Sherghatty in the Gaya district. It is reported that this patrol proved most efficacious in checking crime, as since its institution not a single case of dacoity or highway robbery has taken place on the road in question. In Ranchi the force consisted of 105 ghatwals, but certain reductions have been ordered since the close of the year, and a reorganisation of the whole system is now under consideration. In Palamanu there were 35 ghats with 58 ghatwals.

103. The road patrols in the three districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Palamanu are paid out of the ghatwali cess imposed on certain zamindars and tenure-holders under Part III of Act V (B.C.) of 1887, their remuneration varying from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3.8 per mensem, and they are paid regularly along with the regular police force of the districts.

104. The ghatwals of Manbhum and of pargana Dhalbhum in Singhbhum are remunerated by lands which they hold on payment of small quit-rents to the zamindars. In Manbhum the ghatwals regularly patrol the roads between the different stations, but I find, from enquiries I have had to make in appeals against punishments that have come before me, that the rules on the subject of their attending at the police-stations and submitting special or periodical reports are wanting in definiteness, and I have drawn the attention of the Deputy Commissioner to this matter. In Singhbhum one-third of the total number of ghatwals are employed on beat duty, reporting results to station and outpost offices. The Chaibassa, Midnapore, Bohoragora, and Dumaria roads are regularly patrolled by them. Ghatwali posts are maintained in all the districts at intervals along the roads patrolled by the ghatwals. In Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Palamanu they are maintained out of the ghatwali or, as locally known, the "digwari" cess levied in the districts. In Manbhum they are maintained partly at the cost of the zamindars within whose jurisdictions they are established and partly out of special grants sanctioned by Government. In Singhbhum they are maintained partly by subscriptions raised among the ghatwals and partly by contributions made by the Dhalbhum Estate.

XVI.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

122. The following table shows the number of deeds registered during the past two years in the several districts of the Division:—

DISTRICT.		Deeds registered in 1897-98.	Deeds registered in 1898-99.
1		2	3
Hazaribagh	...	8,077	6,129
Ranchi	...	8,353	5,785
Palamau	...	1,977	1,664
Manbhum	...	19,112	15,928
Singhbhum	...	861	1,017
Total	...	38,380	30,523

There has been a net decrease of 7,857 in the total number of deeds registered. The decrease is shared more or less by all the districts, except Singhbhum, and is, no doubt, rightly attributed by the District Officers to the late excellent harvests and the consequent absence of any pressing necessity amongst the cultivating and land-owning classes to raise money by sales, mortgages or other bonds. The results are in striking contrast in this respect with those of the preceding two years, when opposite conditions obtained. The increase is attributed to the opening of a new sub-registry office at Ghatsilla, and to the general development of the district in consequence of the advent of the Bengal-Nagpur and Sini Kharagpur Railways.

123. The following table compares the receipts in the several districts during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.		RECEIPTS.	
		1897-98.	1898-99.
1		2	3
Hazaribagh	...	Rs. 9,885	Rs. 7,728
Ranchi	...	8,800	7,473
Palamau	...	3,812	3,536
Manbhum	...	18,155	15,607
Singhbhum	...	998	1,116
Total	...	41,650	35,460

The receipts have decreased everywhere, except Singhbhum, where there has been an increase of Rs. 118. In the other districts the result has merely been in keeping with the falling off in the number of registrations.

124. There was one prosecution in Singhbhum under section 82 (a) of Act III of 1877 (for making a false statement before a registering officer), ending in the conviction of the accused, who was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

125. There were 12 rural sub-registry offices in the Division, viz., 4 in Hazaribagh, 1 in Ranchi, 1 in Palamau, 5 in Manbhum, and 1 in Singhbhum, against 9 in the preceding year. Three new offices, viz., one at Gola, in Hazaribagh, one at Chas, in Manbhum, and a third at Ghatsilla, in Singhbhum,

were opened during the year. Mr. Streatfeild, the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, very properly observes that, considering the area of his district, there ought to be more rural offices there. Regarding the only one there is, viz., at the town of Lohardaga, he gives a very unsatisfactory account. When he inspected it in February last, he found the office in a disgraceful state, and had to suspend all the amla. The rural sub-registrar has taken leave; and is not, he believes, to be given re-employment.

XVII.—CONDITION OF THE DIVISION AS REGARDS LAND AND LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

126. The demands and collections of land revenue in the several districts of the Division for the past two years are compared below:—

DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF ESTATES.		DEMANDS.						COLLECTIONS.					
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.			1898-99.			1897-98.			1898-99.		
			Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.	Current.	Arrear.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Hazaribagh	182	161	1,30,083	2,714	1,32,797	1,31,247	1,916	1,33,163	1,28,805	2,353	1,30,949	1,29,207	1,633	1,31,040
Ranchi	215	218	48,305	5,914	54,219	48,409	6,790	55,200	44,205	8,081	47,376	40,777	3,555	44,332
Palamau	201	201	1,02,403	34,492	1,36,895	1,02,200	43,328	1,45,527	65,841	29,937	93,668	65,074	38,558	1,03,632
Manbhum	29	29	82,402	...	82,402	82,402	2,532	84,934	79,130	...	79,130	79,130	...	79,130
Singhbhum	3	4	1,34,305	2	1,34,305	1,36,107	2,110	1,38,217	1,32,293	2	1,32,295	1,32,291	2,100	1,34,391
Total	708	678	4,97,706	43,122	5,40,828	5,00,584	54,676	5,55,260	4,46,654	35,568	4,82,222	4,47,246	40,046	4,87,292

* Includes Rs. 4,696 on account of Tributary States.
† Includes Rs. 4,286 on account of Tributary States.

There was a net decrease of 30 estates in the Division resulting from a decrease of 32 estates under class II in Hazaribagh against increases of one estate each in the districts of Hazaribagh and Singhbhum under class III.

127. The decrease of 32 estates in Hazaribagh under class II was due to their amalgamation with one of the estates under class III on the cancellation of the leases of certain farmers of Government villages for default in payment of rent. The increase of one estate under class III in Hazaribagh is due to the addition to the roll as a new estate of railway B class lands, and that in Singhbhum to the town lands of Chaibassa, which had hitherto been in the possession of the municipality, having been resumed and formed into a separate *khas mahal*.

128. The total current demand of revenue in the several districts, including the Chota Nagpur Tributary States, was Rs. 5,00,584 against Rs. 4,97,706 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,878, due mainly to the addition to the rent-roll of the estates noticed above.

129. The collections on account of current demand amounted to Rs. 4,47,246 against Rs. 4,46,654 in 1897-98, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 1,408, due chiefly (1) to the non-payment of the revenue due by the Patkum Encumbered Estate in Manbhum in consequence of continued failure of the Patkum Indigo and Trading Company (now insolvent) to pay the *izara* rent due by them to the estate, and (2) to the delay in the payment of the rent for the villages in the Barkagarh Government Estate in Ranchi leased to the estate of the late Mr. Henry Stainforth owing to the sudden departure from India of the surviving executor and the consequent temporary confusion in the affairs of the estate. Taking the districts separately, it appears that the current collections have been satisfactory in Hazaribagh, Manbhum, and Singhbhum, being respectively 98.44, 96.16, and 97.63, per cent., but indifferent in Ranchi and Palamau, being 84.1 and 63.6 per cent., respectively. The decrease in the collections in Ranchi is due to causes explained above, and that in Palamau to the poor collections in the Government *khas mahals*, attributable partly, I fear, to lax

supervision by the Sub-Deputy Collector in charge, but also in a great measure to the final kist of 4 annas falling due only three days before the end of the year and before the raiyats have had time to bring their *rabi* crops to market. I have recently recommended to the Board a change of date for this kist.

130. The number of estates which became liable to sale during the year for non-payment of Government dues was 6 in Hazaribagh and 6 in Palamau. Of these, 3 in Hazaribagh and 4 in Ranchi were exempted on payment of all the arrears due, and steps are being taken under the law to realise the arrears due by the rest. Of the 4 estates in Hazaribagh which were notified for sale in the previous year, 2 were exempted from sale on payment of all the arrears after issue of the sale notices. The remaining 2 were sold in due course, but in 1 of these cases the sale was subsequently annulled by this office on appeal.

131. The following table shows the demands, collections, remissions and balances of road and public works cesses in the several districts of the division:—

DISTRICT.	NET DEMAND AFTER EXCLUDING REDUCTIONS AND REMISSIONS.			Collections, including advance collections.	Percentage of collections on current demand (columns 2 and 5).	Balances.	Percentage of balances on gross demand (columns 4 and 7).	Remissions.
	Current.	Arrear.	Total.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Hazaribagh ...	1,01,997	5,871	1,07,868	91,786	89.9	15,826	14.6	6 8
Ranchi ...	94,528	13,221	1,07,749	83,142	87.9	24,609	22.8	...
Palamau ...	87,727	9,427	47,154	37,915	100.5	9,099	19.2	...
Manbhum ...	97,227	27,280	1,21,507	88,231	91.7	36,271	29.1	...
Singhbhum ...	16,862	19	16,881	16,729	99.2	171	1.01	582
Total ...	3,48,341	55,818	4,04,159	3,17,808	91.2	85,976	21.2	1,240

In all the districts both the cesses were levied at the maximum rates allowed by law.

132. In Singhbhum the current collections were above 90 per cent.; in Hazaribagh they were above 80 per cent., but below 90; and in Ranchi, Palamau, and Manbhum they were above 70 per cent., but below 80.

133. The arrear demands in Ranchi and Singhbhum were collected in full. In Hazaribagh and Palamau 91.9 and 99.6 per cent., respectively, of the arrear demands were collected, while in Manbhum the percentage of collections was only 66.5.

134. In Hazaribagh, out of the total outstanding balance of Rs. 15,826, a sum of Rs. 9,990 has been realised since the close of the year, and the remainder is in course of recovery under the certificate procedure. In Ranchi the entire balance has been realised since the close of the year. In Palamau attachment orders have been issued for the arrears of the October 1898 and January 1899 kists, and for those of the March 1899 kist certificates have been issued. The greater portion of the arrears in this district were, however, due on account of estates, the last kist of which fell due only three days before the close of the year.

135. In Manbhum, out of the balance of Rs. 36,271, a sum of Rs. 9,134 represents the balance on account of arrear demand and Rs. 27,137 balance on account of current demand. Nearly the whole of the arrear balance is due

from the Patkum Encumbered Estate owing to the persistent failure, elsewhere noticed, of the Patkum Indigo and Trading Company to pay its ijara rent. Out of the balance on account of current demand, a sum of Rs. 4,000 has been collected since the close of the year; Rs. 9,500 are due from encumbered estates, Rs. 8,330 relate to the last kist of the year, and for the residue certificates have been issued.

136. In Singhbhum the arrears of Rs. 171 represent balance on account of cesses under Chapter V of the Act—a chapter which the Deputy Commissioner reports, owing to the short-termed period of leases which prevails in the district and the migratory character of the petty lessees of forests and quarries, is most difficult to work. Certificates have, however, been issued against the defaulters, and a part of the arrears due from them recovered.

137. In last year's report it was mentioned that a general revaluation of the Ranchi and Palamau districts had been sanctioned by Government, and that operations in the former had commenced in December 1897. The work was steadily proceeded with during the year of report, with the result that out of a total of 30,627 ascertained tenures 4,271 had been revalued at a cost of Rs. 6,546 out of a sanctioned estimate of Rs. 15,086 by the end of the year. It should be stated, however, that the above by no means represents the whole of the work that has been done, for returns have in addition been received in respect of all, or nearly all, of the remaining tenures, and the Deputy Commissioner expects the rest of the work to be completed within the sanctioned cost. So far as it has gone, the result has been a prospective increase in the assessment by 26·6 per cent., which may be considered satisfactory and quite a sufficient warrant for the adoption of the measure. The total amount sanctioned for the revaluation proceedings was Rs. 15,086, of which Rs. 1,699-10-7 were spent in 1897-98 and Rs. 4,846-15-11 in 1898-99. In Palamau, out of 764 estates, the revaluation of 419, including 1,604 sub-tenures, was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 6,813 out of a sanctioned estimate of Rs. 10,636. It is expected that the whole work will be finished by August or September of the current year. So far as the proceedings have gone, the result has been to show the urgent necessity of the measure, the annual value of the 419 estates that have been disposed of having been determined at Rs. 4,77,793 in place of Rs. 2,70,911, at which it had hitherto been fixed, thus raising the cess demand from Rs. 16,583 to Rs. 29,584, or by 78·4 per cent. This is a matter for congratulation in so backward a district, where the need of improved means of communication has so long been felt. It is also a matter for satisfaction that only eight petitions of objection have so far been filed. Of these, seven have been disposed of and one is pending local enquiry.

138. The total number of certificates pending from the previous year was 1,041,* and the number filed during the year was 6,408, making a total of 7,449 for disposal, of which 4,960 were disposed of, leaving 2,489 pending. Of the 2,489 pending cases, 849 were pending for more than six months. The number of institutions during the year of report shows an aggregate increase of 4,127, which is shared more or less by all the districts. In Singhbhum the increase is mainly due to a large number of institutions for the recovery of rents due by the raiyats in the Dhalbhum Encumbered Estate. In all of the other districts the increase is, in a great measure, due to the filing of certificates for the recovery of advances that were made during the late famine under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act. In Hazaribagh an additional cause was the realisation by the certificate procedure of penalties imposed under the Land Registration Act; in Ranchi the recovery of fines for failure to file returns under the revaluation proceedings; and in Palamau the issue of a large number of certificates for the recovery of arrears of rent due by the raiyats in the Government khas mahals.

Public Demands Recovery Act.

* Includes two cases from other districts.

XIX.—EXCISE.

156. The number of licenses issued for the sale of the different exciseable articles and the revenue derived from them during the past two years are compared below:—

Description of spirit or drug.	1897-98.					1898-99.					INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Number of licenses.	License fees.	Duty and distillery fees.	Consumption.	Total revenue.	Number of licenses.	License fees.	Duty and distillery fees.	Consumption.	Total revenue.	Number of licenses.	Revenue.	Number of licenses.	Revenue.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Rs.	Rs.	Mds. s. ch.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Mds. s. ch.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Country spirit ...	536	6,30,269	6,263	...	6,36,532	580	6,94,376	9,363	...	7,03,739	44	77,067	...	...
Tari ...	222	7,253	...	...	7,253	227	7,736	...	...	7,736	5	486	...	...
Pachwai ...	166	11,836	...	...	11,836	157	13,196	...	...	13,196	1	1,360	...	...
Rum, imported wine, &c.	15	1,724	...	...	1,724	13	1,762	...	...	1,762	...	58	2	...
Charas, majun, chandu and madak.	...	15	...	...	15	1	58	...	...	58	1	38	...	...
Ganja and bhang	163	41,476	37,868	170 17 7	79,344	166	39,664	39,347	173 23 74	79,011	3	...	...	333
Opium ...	50	17,847	37,923	87 21 0	57,770	44	17,696	41,036	57 36 0	58,732	...	1,464	6	...
Druggists' licenses ...	5	4	...	...	4	7	7	...	...	7	2	2	...	...
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	353	...	...	...	...	322	...	...	...	31
Total ...	1,148	7,00,044	84,064	...	7,81,451	1,194	7,74,507	89,745	...	8,64,575	54	80,428	8	364

157. Out of the total excise revenue of the year, amounting to Rs. 8,64,575, as much as Rs. 7,03,739, or about 81·4 per cent., was contributed by country spirits; Rs. 79,011, or 9·1 per cent., by ganja; and Rs. 58,724, or 6·8 per cent., by opium. Pachwai and tari accounted between them for Rs. 20,937, or 2·4 per cent.

158. There was, on the whole, a net increase of Rs. 80,124 in the excise revenue over the receipts of the previous year, of which as much as Rs. 77,087 was under the head of Country spirits.

This was due generally to the larger purchasing power amongst customers owing to the excellent harvests which encouraged the sale of licenses at higher rates; but it was also due, in no small degree, to the favourable outturn of the *mahua*, from which country liquor is manufactured, gathered in the spring of the year under review. Not only was the crop fully up to the standard in

most of the districts, but the demand on it as an article of food* was much less than in the preceding years of scarcity. Thus the promise of ample and cheap materials was a further encouragement to the candidates for licenses to increase their bids.

159. The increase in revenue was contributed generally by all the districts, except Manbhum, where there was a falling off of Rs. 13,172 under the heads of Opium, Country spirits and Ganja. The falling off in this district under the revenue from opium was caused by the fluctuations in purchases by the Native States, some of which obtained larger supplies from Ranchi than in the preceding year; while that under Country spirits and Ganja is explained by the heavy losses sustained by the vendors during the previous scarcity, and

especially owing to the dullness of the coal and lac trade in the year immediately preceding. As a consequence, both here and to some extent in other districts also, the auction-bidders at first proceeded cautiously and endeavoured to combine to keep down the selling prices. This they succeeded for some time in doing, and a number of the shops were not let until the month of August, when one-third of the year had already expired.

160. The outstill system is in force throughout the division, except two small areas within the Giridih and Gobindpur subdivisions in the Hazaribagh and Manbhum districts, where the distillery system is maintained to meet the requirements of a large mining population working in the collieries. There is only one *sadar* distillery in Giridih, which supplies liquor to 13 shops. The distillery shops within the Gobindpur subdivision obtain their supplies from the Burdwan district. Hilly and sparsely populated as the division for the most part is, the outstill system is the best suited to its requirements.

161. As noticed in paragraph 145 of last year's report, the question of the extension of the privilege of home-brewing *pachwai* to a number of the semi-aboriginal tribes in the district of Ranchi came under discussion during the preceding year. Hitherto the concession has been allowed to 15 sects of aborigines who are accustomed to use *pachwai* in their social and religious observances. The result has been a considerable crop of police and excise raids and prosecutions of persons belonging to other semi-aboriginal castes amongst whom it is claimed that similar social customs obtain. The expediency of extending the privilege to a number of these other castes was therefore considered, but it soon became apparent that there would be a great difficulty in drawing the line, thus extended, between these people and the rest of the general population. Under the circumstances, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Streatfeild, was of opinion that the proper remedy would be to allow free home-brewing generally throughout the Ranchi district. The view held by the Board of Revenue, however, was that the arguments for the abolition of all restrictions would equally apply to the whole province; whilst, on general principles, the circle of exceptional treatment should, with the progress of civilisation, be narrowed and not extended. It was, therefore, ruled that matters should be left as they are. On this subject the Deputy Commissioner now offers the following remarks:—

“By recent orders the Board of Revenue have declined to amend the existing rules as to the privilege of home-brewing *pachwai* in the district, and consequently, while 16 aboriginal and semi-aboriginal castes have the privilege of home-brewing, any person not belonging to these castes brewing *pachwai* will continue to be liable to prosecution. This, however, is the universal custom among many of the unexempted castes, such as Ahirs, Telis and Kumhars. These invariably brew rice-beer on the occasion of any festival, and the houses of members of these castes are consequently constantly being raided upon on such occasions by the Police and Excise staff, and their owners prosecuted. The opportunities for levying blackmail offered by this state of affairs are also, of course, very great, and the harassment and oppression connected with such prosecutions considerable. Realising this, the Excise Commissioner has of late discouraged prosecutions for brewing *pachwai*, while proposals for extending the privilege of free home-brewing have been under consideration. These proposals having been rejected, such prosecutions must again be encouraged, and I cannot but regard this as perpetuating serious abuses. At the same time I am convinced that there is no practical alternative between going on as at present and accepting my proposals to abolish all restrictions on home-brewing, by whatever caste.”

162. The question is no doubt a difficult one, but on the whole, if it be admitted, as it seems to be, that there is no *media via*, I think that the decision arrived at by the Board is the proper one. It is a noticeable fact that the above-mentioned privilege of home-brewing does not appear to have been fully taken advantage of by the Hos of Singhbhum, as out of 227 licenses granted in the division during the past year for the sale of *pachwai*, no fewer than 84 were in force in the Singhbhum district, while out of a total revenue of Rs. 13,198 derived from *pachwai*, Rs. 6,658, or over 50 per cent., was realised in that district. Mr. Thomson, the Deputy Commissioner, thinks that more *pachwai* shops should be opened in the Singhbhum Kolhan in order to prevent the growth of a taste for country liquor among the Kols. The matter shall have consideration.

163. There was a greater show of activity in the detection of breaches of the excise and opium laws, as the number of arrests made in the division rose from 355 in 1897-98 to 442 in the past year, and of those arrested, 372 were convicted during the past against 302 in the previous year. There were, however, very few cases of illicit manufacture of country spirits detected during the year, though this particular offence, I have reason to believe from the enquiries made by me during my cold-weather tour, is of frequent occurrence in the outlying parts of the districts. The total amount of fines imposed in excise and opium cases was Rs. 7,127, out of which Rs. 3,881, or about 54·4 per cent., was realised during the year against Rs. 5,652 imposed and Rs. 2,649 realised, or a percentage of 46·8, in the previous year. As in 1897-98, the realisation in Ranchi was exceptionally bad, as out of Rs. 1,037 imposed, only Rs. 348 or about 33·5 per cent., was realised. One reason for this may, I think, be traced to the tendency amongst the Courts to pass inadequate sentences of imprisonment in default of payment of fine. It often does not seem to strike trying officers that, given a certain fine as an appropriate punishment, the alternative punishment awarded should as a rule at least be sufficient to extract it. The following table gives the particulars of the persons arrested and convicted, the fines imposed and realised, and the amounts distributed as rewards in the several districts during the past year :—

DISTRICT.	Number of persons arrested.	Number of persons convicted.	Amount of fines imposed.	Amount of fines realised.	AMOUNT OF REWARDS PAID TO—			
					Police officers.	Excise officers.	In-formers	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Hazaribagh ...	112	83	1,589	1,004	479	365	523	1,367
Ranchi ...	87	71	1,037	348	354	415	293	1,062
Palamau ...	34	26	212	156	113	60	25	198
Manbhum ...	56	49	925	459	128	435	98	661
Singbhum ...	153	143	3,364	1,914	433	567	1,666	2,666
Total ...	442	372	7,127	3,881	1,507	1,842	2,605	5,945

XX.—STAMPS.

164. The following statement compares the receipts and charges on account of stamps in the districts of this Division during the past two years :—

HEADS OF RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE.	1897-98.						1898-99.					
	Hazaribagh.	Ranchi.	Palamau.	Manbhum.	Singbhum.	Total.	Hazaribagh.	Ranchi.	Palamau.	Manbhum.	Singbhum.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
RECEIPTS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts from stamps of all kinds.	1,02,270	1,14,285	32,861	1,72,186	23,782	4,45,343	95,245	1,14,174	35,575	1,73,051	20,124	4,38,069
Miscellaneous receipts	1,260	1,020	440	2,273	570	6,173	1,275	1,547	435	2,163	310	6,230
Duty and penalty	362	619	233	622	110	1,946	521	805	169	419	91	2,005
Total Receipts	1,03,901	1,15,924	33,534	1,75,081	24,472	4,53,494	97,041	1,16,526	36,179	1,75,633	21,525	4,47,009
CHARGES.												
Discount on sale of stamps	1,465	1,003	603	2,807	320	6,907	1,253	1,530	611	2,358	303	6,994
Refunds	413	1,201	81	1,640	150	3,484	369	1,034	139	740	32	2,314
Miscellaneous	96	140	29	142	36	441	103	163	27	135	—	428
Total Charges	1,973	2,344	712	4,589	524	10,742	1,725	2,727	777	3,433	344	9,038
Net Revenue	1,01,928	1,13,580	32,834	1,70,492	23,948	4,42,752	95,316	1,13,799	35,402	1,72,200	21,181	4,37,971

165. There has been a decrease of Rs. 4,750 in the net revenue for the Division, the result of decreases of Rs. 6,612 and Rs. 3,204 in the districts of Hazaribagh and Singhbhum, respectively, and of increases of Rs. 210, Rs. 2,548 and Rs. 2,308 in the districts of Ranchi, Palamau, and Manbhum, respectively. The falling off in Hazaribagh is attributed in a great measure to a decrease in the number of transactions with money-lenders, owing to the late good harvests, and also to the fact of several of their larger clients having come under the operation of the Encumbered Estates Act, and thus being no longer open to their blandishments. There has also been a decrease in the number of civil suits of high value, and also a more free use than formerly of currency notes in the place of *hundis* for the purpose of making remittances. In Singhbhum the falling off is attributed chiefly to the two last-mentioned causes, especially to the absence during the past year of any important suits by railway contractors several of which kind of cases were filed during the year preceding. The increase in the districts of Ranchi, Palamau, and Manbhum is due to the increase in the number of rent suits and criminal cases and to the issue of a larger number of certificate cases.

166. The following statement compares the number of cases in which stamp duty and penalty were levied under sections 34 and 37 of the Indian Stamp Act:—

DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF CASES.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3
Hazaribagh	47	71
Ranchi	80	105
Palamau	28	18
Manbhum	57	45
Singhbhum	10	7
Total	222	246

167. There has been a marked increase in the number of cases in Hazaribagh and Ranchi, which Mr. Stroatfeild thinks may perhaps purely be due to people resorting more and more to the careless and ill-informed petition-writers for the drawing up of their documents. The decrease in Manbhum is attributed by the Deputy Commissioner to income-tax assessors and ministerial officers having been forbidden by the Board of Revenue's Circular Order No. 11 of March 1896 to take part in the detection of cases of evasion of the stamp duty.

168. Altogether there were 16 prosecutions for infringement of the provisions of the stamp law against 20 in the preceding year. The number of persons brought to trial was 16, of whom only 9 were convicted, against 47 persons tried and 21 convicted in the preceding year. The fines imposed in cases in which convictions were obtained amounted to Rs. 54 against Rs. 143 in the preceding year.

XXI.—INCOME-TAX.

169. The following statement compares the number of persons and the amount of tax assessed in the several districts during the past two years:—

District.	PERSONS ORIGINALLY ASSESSED.		PERSONS FINALLY ASSESSED.		ORIGINAL ASSESSMENT.		FINAL ASSESSMENT.	
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Hazaribagh	1,316	1,264	1,267	1,268	25,817	26,098	25,245	25,246
Isahardaga	936	930	930	916	17,063	18,051	17,682	17,033
Palamau	610	613	793	738	15,071	14,108	18,006	15,376
Manbhum	1,083	1,064	1,008	1,073	35,001	41,081	33,838	30,938
Singbhum	464	440	458	431	14,300	12,116	14,297	11,511
Total	4,611	4,630	4,536	4,485	1,06,841	1,11,994	1,04,568	1,07,848

170. There was a falling off in the number of assesseees finally assessed in all the districts, except Manbhum. The decrease in Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Palamau is slight, while that in Singbhum is due to the fact that a number of railway contractors and shop-keepers left the district, owing to the completion of the greater portion of the Sini section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. The final demand on account of tax was Rs. 1,07,843 as compared with Rs. 1,04,563 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 3,280, which is the result of an increase of Rs. 6,202 in the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Manbhum, and of a decrease of Rs. 2,922 in Palamau and Singbhum. The increase in Manbhum is large, being Rs. 6,100, or about 18 per cent., of the demand of the previous year, and is said to be due to greater care on the part of the assessor in making enquiries. The decrease in Palamau is due in some measure to remissions in cases appealed to this office, while that in Singbhum is attributed to the reasons already given above. The gross collections during the year amounted to Rs. 1,11,515, including arrears of tax and penalties, &c., as compared with Rs. 1,11,183 in the previous year. The collections on account of the current year's tax alone amounted to Rs. 1,04,995 as compared with Rs. 1,01,136 in the preceding year. The percentage of collections on all accounts, including tax, penalties, and arrears, came to 95.2 against 93.4 in the previous year. The result is on the whole satisfactory. Of the outstanding balance of Rs. 4,501, Rs. 3,084 are reported to be good and under realisation, Rs. 747 doubtful, and Rs. 670 bad and irrecoverable.

171. The total charges incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 8,997, representing 8 per cent. of the total collections against 8.3 per cent. in the previous year. The net revenue of the past year thus amounted to Rs. 1,02,152 against Rs. 1,01,867 in 1897-98, showing an increase of Rs. 285, or about .3 per cent., on the previous year's revenue.

172. Out of 4,630 persons originally assessed, 710, or about 15.3 per cent., filed petitions of objections against 12.9 per cent. in the previous year. The objections were comparatively heaviest in Manbhum, Hazaribagh and Palamau, in the first two of which districts the work of the assessors was probably on the whole the best, and in the last the worst in the division, thus exemplifying the fact that the filing of a large number of objections may equally be the result of careful, though strict, assessments as of careless and inequitable ones. The number of successful objections was 228, or 32.7 per cent., the number of successful cases being highest in Hazaribagh and Palamau. Out of 4,485 persons finally assessed, distress warrants were issued against 202; property was distrained in 49 cases and actually sold in 16 as compared with 267, 82, and 26, respectively, in the previous year.

173. The average incidence of the tax in the division was Re. 1 to every 42.9 persons against Re. 1 to every 44.2 persons in the previous year. The proportion of persons assessed to every 100 villages for the whole

division was 16·8 as compared with 17 in the previous year. Ranchi continues as before to be considerably the most lightly assessed district in the division (the incidence there being only Re. 1 to every 64 persons), though there seems no special reason for this. I have suggested to the Board the advisability of interchanging assessors, in such cases, between the more heavily and the lighter assessed districts, and I have proposed that this should now be done in the case of Ranchi.

XXVI.—EDUCATION.

199. The following is a comparative statement of the number of schools of different descriptions in the division and of pupils attending them during the last two years:—

INSTITUTIONS.	1897-98.		1898-99.	
	Schools.	Pupils.	Schools.	Pupils.
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Public Instruction.</i>				
<i>Secondary—</i>				
High English Schools ...	9	1,700	10	1,907
Middle English Schools ...	41	2,569	40	2,546
Middle Vernacular Schools ...	33	2,047	32	1,879
<i>Primary Instruction.</i>				
Upper Primary ...	129	5,903	129	5,883
Lower Primary ...	2,053	53,131	2,148	55,435
Special or Technical ...	13	197	12	236
Female ...	108	2,826	118	2,940
Total Public Instruction ...	2,386	68,373	2,489	70,826
<i>Private Institutions.</i>				
<i>Advanced—</i>				
Teaching Arabic or Persian ...	26	485	30	45
Teaching Sanskrit ...	5	112	9	233
<i>Elementary—</i>				
Teaching vernacular only or mainly ...	56	621	44	313
Teaching Koran only ...	2	50	6	148
Other schools ...	...	...	...	...
Total Private Institutions ...	89	1,268	89	1,145
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,475	69,641	2,578	71,971

It is satisfactory to note that there has been an increase in the number of public schools, which rose from 2,386 to 2,489. The number of private schools remained unchanged. The increase in the number of public schools is observed chiefly under the class of "Lower Primary Schools." The number of pupils attending public schools also shows a satisfactory increase, viz., from 68,373 to 70,826.

200. The number of high schools was 10 with 1,907 pupils against 9 with 1,700 pupils in the previous year. This increase is due to the opening of a new school at Chirkunda in the Govindpur subdivision in Manbhum. The results of the last Entrance Examination were satisfactory, as out of 70 candidates sent up, 48, or nearly 68·5 per cent., passed against 56 per cent. in the preceding year. The Ranchi Zilla School did especially well, as all the candidates sent up passed, two in the first and six in the second division, one of the successful candidates being an aboriginal Christian. A non-Christian Ho boy passed during the year the Entrance Examination for the first time from the Chaibassa Zilla School.

201. The number of middle English schools fell from 41 to 40 and their pupils from their 2,569 to 2,546. This decrease is due to the abolition of two schools in Ranchi in consequence of the withdrawal of Government aid owing to their mismanagement, while a new school was started in Singhbhum. The number of candidates who appeared in the Middle English Scholarship Examination was 64, of whom 29, or 45·3 per cent., passed, against 40·7 (35 out of 85) in the previous year. Regarding the middle English education, Mr. Streatfeild, the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, writes:—

"The demand for middle education in this district is very small, and middle schools can, as a rule, only exist when an influential local man or family is prepared to bear a large proportion of the charges. I do not believe in bolstering up unsatisfactory schools that do not meet a real demand, but in all cases I have made every effort to infuse vitality into such schools before recommending their abolition."

I entirely agree in these remarks, and that local funds raised for the benefit of the mass should not be diverted, in the interests of the well-to-do few, for the support of secondary education. This remark applies especially to English education, which should, as a rule, be self supporting; or if it be decided, as a matter of policy, that extraneous help should be given, this should be done at the expense of the general tax-payer, from the Provincial revenues, and not be a charge on the local funds.

202. During the year there has been a decrease in the number of middle vernacular schools by one, and a falling off in the number of students attending them from 2,047 to 1,879. This decrease was owing to the abolition of one school in Singhbhum. Of 32 schools existing during the year, 24 were departmental and 8 were aided. Of the departmental schools four are in Hazaribagh, seven in Ranchi, three in Palamau, three in Manbhum and seven in Singhbhum. Of the aided institutions, one is in Ranchi and seven in Manbhum. At the last Middle Vernacular Scholarship Examination 123 candidates appeared, of whom 61, or 50 per cent., were successful, against 68 per cent. (62 out of 91) in the preceding year.

203. The aggregate number of upper primary schools in the Division was the same as in the previous year, Palamau showing an increase of four schools, while in Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Manbhum there was a decrease of one, one, and two, respectively. The decrease of two schools in Manbhum was due to the fact of these schools having been raised to a higher status. The number of candidates sent up for the last Upper Primary Scholarship Examination was 405, of whom 182, or nearly 45 per cent., passed against 43·5 per cent. in the previous year.

204. The number of lower primary schools was 2,148 with 55,435 pupils against 2,053 with 53,131 pupils in the previous year. This increase is the net result of increases of 4, 42, 76, and 19 schools in Hazaribagh, Ranchi, Manbhum, and Singhbhum, respectively, and a decrease of 45 schools in Palamau. The decrease in Palamau was due to the withdrawal under orders of the late Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Renny, of stipends from a number of badly managed and otherwise inefficient schools. In the last Lower Primary Examination 2,705 candidates appeared, of whom 1,309, or nearly 48 per cent., were successful against 45·4 per cent. in the previous year.

205. In connection with primary education, Mr. Thomson, the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, remarks:—

“It is regrettable that so few of the pupils ever get beyond the lower primary schools. This is to a great extent due to the insufficiency of the qualifications of the teachers, many of whom, and especially when the aboriginal population preponderates, are quite unfit to teach even in lower primary schools. I have made proposals since the end of the year for remedying this by establishing a training school for aboriginal teachers in the Kolhan and Porahat.”

This proposal is, I understand, under consideration by the Educational authorities.

206. The number of special schools has decreased from 13 to 12, while the number of pupils attending them has increased from 197 to 236. In Singhbhum there were only two such schools against five in the previous year, owing to the abolition of three training classes attached to middle schools in 1897-98. One new school was opened in Hazaribagh. In Ranchi and Palamau the number of these schools remained unchanged, but the number of pupils in the Ranchi schools rose from 136 to 153. In Manbhum a new Sanskrit *tal* at Murardi was opened.

Mr. Stratfeild, the Deputy Commissioner of Ranchi, gives the following account of the industrial school in his district:—

“The roll number of the Ranchi industrial school rose from 35 to 43. During the year under report the school deposited into the treasury the sale-proceeds of the articles manufactured to the amount of Rs. 1,766 against Rs. 1,604 in the preceding year. The amount drawn for purchase of raw materials was Rs. 1,000 as in the previous year. The net expenditure from the Provincial revenue was Rs. 1,317, exclusive of Rs. 766, which was the profit of the sale-proceeds against Rs. 1,986 of the previous year, which included Rs. 604, the profit of that year. The receipts from the interest on the assets of the Chutia Fair Fund amounted to Rs. 382 against Rs. 443. Blacksmith work, carpentry, carriage building and painting as well as a little of reading, writing, and arithmetic were taught as in the previous year. All the 43 boys were aborigines—40 Christians and 3 heathens. The proposal of introducing steam-power and furnishing the school with a set of better instruments, as recommended by Mr. Slater, Principal of the Sibpur Engineering College, is under consideration; His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having, when inspecting the school in November last, expressed an opinion in favour of some extension of the scope of the school.

“There were during the year under review three other industrial schools aided from the Primary Fund at Silli, Basenda, and Bundu, with 1,820 and 23 pupils, respectively: the first two taught blacksmith's work and the last both blacksmith's work and carpentry.”

There is also a question under consideration, on a suggestion by Mr. Slater, of establishing a technical class in the Ranchi Zilla School in connection with the industrial school. Reports will be submitted in due course by this office on both of the above matters as soon as certain enquiries now being made have been completed.

Mr. Thomson, the Deputy Commissioner of Singhbhum, reports that the teacher of the Ghatsilla Industrial School is not well up to his work, as he has had no practical training; that the school has always been in a more or less unsatisfactory condition under his management. A proposal has been made to have him replaced by a properly qualified teacher from the Sibpur Civil Engineering College, provided that funds can be obtained to raise the pay of the post from Rs. 15 to Rs. 25. This is one of the many matters which would be solved by the extension of the Local Self-Government Act to these districts.

207. During the year female schools numbered 118 with 2,940 pupils against 108 with 2,826 pupils in the previous year. Of the 118 schools, 29 were in Hazaribagh, 33 in Ranchi, 19 in Manbhum, and 23 in Singhbhum. Compared with the figures of the preceding year, there were increases of seven, two, and three schools in Ranchi, Manbhum, and Singhbhum, respectively, while in each of the Hazaribagh and Palamau districts the number decreased by one. Altogether 11 girls appeared at the Upper Primary and 67 at the Lower Primary Examination, of whom 3 and 48 respectively were successful. Of the three girls who passed the Upper Primary Examination, two were from the Ranchi Bengali and Anglican Mission Upper Primary Schools for girls, the former carrying away a scholarship.

208. The percentage of boys of a school-going age attending schools was 19 against 18·4 in the previous year. The percentage was highest in Ranchi,

viz. 20·3, while it was lowest in Palamau, being only 13. In Hazaribagh it was 14·1, in Manbhum 20·2, and in Singhbhum 15.

209. A comparative statement is annexed below showing the total expenditure incurred on education during the past two years:—

CLASS of SCHOOLS.	1897-98.			1898-99.		
	EXPENDITURE.			EXPENDITURE.		
	Provincial revenue.	Municipal fund and private sources.	Total.	Provincial revenue.	Municipal fund and private sources.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Secondary ...	34,697	61,608	96,305	33,660	71,800	1,05,460
Primary ...	59,684	65,668	1,25,352	62,258	77,968	1,40,221
Female ..	5,957	8,761	14,718	5,709	8,742	14,451
Special ...	7,663	1,383	9,046	7,520	2,345	9,865
Scholarships ...	5,820	168	5,988	5,085	128	5,213
Buildings ...	2,139	16,331	18,370	2,740	2,118	4,858
Furniture and apparatus	1,713	343	2,056	3,522	370	3,892
Miscellaneous ...	7,950	27,080	35,030	7,069	40,729	47,798
Superintendence ...	48,617	158	48,775	48,809	168	49,977
Total ...	1,73,740	1,52,000	3,25,740	1,77,372	2,04,368	3,81,735

The above figures show an increase of Rs. 25,995 in the total expenditure on education, which is mainly due to the large increase in the number of schools. The cost per pupil for the Division was Rs. 5-4-10 against Rs. 5-3-2 in the previous year. It ranged from Rs. 42-11-2 in Singhbhum to Rs. 18-3-2 in Manbhum for high schools, from Rs. 13-1-7 in Hazaribagh to Rs. 8-11-2 in Palamau for middle schools, from Rs. 2-15-2 in Manbhum to Rs. 1-14-5 in Singhbhum for primary schools, and from Rs. 54-9-7 in Ranchi to Rs. 5-9-7 in Hazaribagh for special schools.

210. There are no separate schools for the education of Muhammadan boys. The report from Hazaribagh district in connection with the subject of Muhammadan education is, however, encouraging, as 36 Muhammadan boys from that district passed in the several examinations, viz., one in the Middle Vernacular and 35 in Lower Primary Examination, of whom 4 obtained scholarships. In Ranchi two Muhammadan boys passed the Middle Vernacular Scholarship and 9 the Lower Primary Examination.

211. In Palamau a case of fraud by one of the inspecting pandits was discovered during the year. The Deputy Commissioner writes:—

“The pandit took a month's leave, which he overstayed by a month. To hide his absence, however, he sent fictitious inspection notes of various schools, having previously provided himself with blank forms, to a guru postmaster with instructions to again despatch these to the gurus of the different schools to be entered in the inspection register. Luckily the Deputy Inspector visited some of the schools which had been provided with these false inspection reports, and on enquiry found the pandit had not been there. Further enquiries energetically carried out by the Deputy Inspector exposed the whole fraud. The pandit having sent in a bill for his pay for the month rendered himself liable to a criminal prosecution, and eventually got three months for cheating.”

The result, it may be hoped, will counteract the effect of the lessons in morality the pandit may be supposed to have taught his pupils.

XXVII.—DISPENSARIES AND HOSPITALS.

212. The following statement shows the statistics of the dispensaries maintained in the several districts during the past two years :—

District.	Dispensary.	1897.			1898.			Total expenditure incurred in—	
		Number of in-patients treated.	Number of out-patients treated.	Total number of patients treated.	Number of in-patients treated.	Number of out-patients treated.	Total number of patients treated.	1897.	1898.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
								Rs.	Rs.
Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	511	5,962	6,473	167	8,601	8,858	1,769	2,116
	Girdih	109	7,306	7,415	86	7,703	7,789	2,048	2,019
	Chatra	43	2,712	2,755	18	2,795	2,813	879	1,118
	Barhi	...	2,742	2,742	...	2,670	2,670	886	1,045
Lohardaga	Koderma	10	1,482	1,492	14	1,449	1,463	1,019	968
	Ranchi	447	5,945	6,392	264	4,963	5,227	2,600	2,901
Palamu	Lohardaga	...	2,113	2,113	...	2,040	2,040	2,030	653
	Daltonganj	370	4,417	4,787	208	4,702	4,910	12,884	1,797
	Rauki	...	1,098	1,098	...	1,242	1,242	524	677
	Purulia	462	4,211	4,673	309	4,363	4,702	2,030	1,858
Manbhum	Pandra	45	2,607	2,652	21	2,630	2,651	683	627
	Gobindpur	133	2,672	2,805	82	2,249	2,331	700	836
	Topechauchi	163	1,763	1,926	37	1,709	1,746	984	1,218
	Raghunathpur	...	4,015	4,015	...	4,185	4,185	724	965
Singbhum	Jhalda	...	2,594	2,594	...	2,903	2,903	495	744
	Horria	65	3,330	3,395	48	3,351	3,399	1,003	873
	Hariabazar	...	1,800	1,800	...	1,871	1,871	782	859
	Chaibassa	123	3,442	3,565	...	3,632	2,722	34,673	1,306
	Total	2,501	61,268	63,769	1,338	63,707	65,045	34,673	22,303

213. No new dispensary was opened during the year, but at Hazaribagh a new and well equipped dispensary was built consisting of three wards under separate roofs on a new site given by Government. Funds for the purpose were provided by a handsome donation of Rs. 4,000 from the late Raja of Padma (Ramghar), by the sale of the old building and premises for Rs. 3,000, by a grant of Rs. 2,000 from Government and other smaller subscriptions, the total sum raised aggregating Rs. 3,099-8. The new building was opened on the 8th May of the present year. It is proposed as soon as possible to remove the Lady Dufferin hospital to the same locality, the site granted by Government being, it is thought, sufficiently large for the purpose.

214. As reported in the previous year, the dispensaries at Hazaribagh, Chatra, Ranchi, Lohardaga, Purulia, Raghunathpur, Jhalda, and Chaibassa depend mainly for their support upon the municipalities of those places, while the rest are maintained either by private individuals or by local subscriptions.

The total income of the dispensaries amounted to Rs. 22,237, made up of Rs. 7,321 contributed from Municipal Funds, Rs. 11,340 from private subscriptions, and Rs. 3,576 supplied by Government, against Rs. 7,638, Rs. 13,139, and Rs. 2,984, respectively, from the same sources in the previous year. The Government contribution generally consisted of the diet expenses in police cases and the cost of registers and forms, &c.

215. Taking one year with another, the main feature financially is the gradual falling off in voluntary subscriptions and the corresponding increase in the calls upon local funds for the support of these institutions. To check this tendency amongst subscribers to curtail their charity, it has lately been proposed to form a separate fund from such subscriptions under the control of the medical officers instead of allowing them to be merged with the several local funds. I lately reported, in reply to an enquiry by Government, in favour of the above proposal, but I am inclined on further consideration to think that the best system would probably be for each dispensary to be managed by its own Committee (instead of by the local fund or Municipal Committee) and to have a fund of its own made up from voluntary subscriptions, local fund grants and any other existing sources. I propose shortly to address Government on this subject.

216. The in-patients and out-patients treated in the dispensaries numbered 1,338 and 63,707 respectively against 2,501 and 61,268 in 1897, the daily average being 6.36 for in-patients and 32.22 for out-patients. The considerable decrease in the number of in-patients is explained by the much larger number of cases of debility requiring in-door treatment during the famine

year 1897, while the increase in the number of out-door patients, which was contributed mainly by the Hazaribagh dispensary, seems to be due to the gradually growing popularity of the different institutions amongst the general population.

217. The total expenditure incurred amounted to Rs. 22,303 against Rs. 34,673 in 1897, the decrease being chiefly due to the inclusion in the expenditure of 1897 of the cost incurred in the construction of the new dispensary at Daltonganj. If the Daltonganj figures for both years be omitted, the total expenditure of all the other dispensaries was Rs. 20,566 as compared with Rs. 21,789 in the preceding year. For the dispensaries in municipalities the relative figures are Rs. 11,553 in 1898 as compared with Rs. 11,258 in 1897, an increase of Rs. 295; for the rural dispensaries the figures are Rs. 9,013 in 1898 as against Rs. 10,531 in 1897, a decrease of Rs. 1,518. These latter are supported entirely by voluntary subscriptions, the general falling off in which may be fairly correctly gauged by the above result. The fact is that in this Division assistance is needed by all the dispensaries generally, and especially by the rural dispensaries from the Road Cess funds. This, however, cannot legally be given, as the Local Self-Government Act is not in force here. I have already addressed Government once on this subject, and propose shortly to do so again.

218. During the year an effort was made to advance the position of the Purulia dispensary which stands generally in much need of improvement, and a public meeting was held by the Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum in December last for the purpose of raising subscriptions for (1) increasing the accommodation for in-patients; and (2) the entertainment of an Assistant Surgeon in place of the present Civil Hospital Assistant.

The first object promises to be attained, the zamindar of Jherria having offered the handsome donation of Rs. 5,000 towards the purpose, and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor also having promised to supplement the voluntary subscriptions that may be raised by a Government grant. But the Deputy Commissioner does not appear to be very hopeful of the second object being secured. I think myself that there should be no doubt about the matter at all in a well-to-do town like Purulia, and I am still in correspondence with the Deputy Commissioner on the subject.

219. Besides the dispensaries shown in the above list, there are two private dispensaries in the Hazaribagh district, viz., one at Hazaribagh, maintained by the Dublin University Mission, and the other at Pachamba near Giridih by the Scottish Mission. In Ranchi there are also two private dispensaries, viz., one at Ranchi and the other at Lohardaga, both supported by the German Lutheran Mission.

220. In Ranchi there are two asylums in connection with the German Lutheran Mission at Lohardaga—one for lepers and the other for other incurables. In the asylum for lepers there were 24 patients and in that for incurables 22 during the year. On the subject of the leper asylums the Revd. F. Hahn, under whose care it is, writes:—

“The inmates of the asylum are of all castes and creeds. Every body is permitted to respect the rules of his caste or religion, consequently there is no common kitchen, but each patient received Rs. 2-8 per mensem, with which he provides for himself as he thinks proper (the food being procurable from *modis* specially appointed, close to the asylum, for the purpose). Drunkenness and other vicious habits and begging are not tolerated. The Bible is taught in the asylum, as I find it comforts the patients and strengthens them to bear their bitter lot, but no one is ever *compelled* to listen to the instructions given or to attend prayers which are held daily in the chapel attached to the asylum.”

The expenses in connection with the Leper Asylum, amounting during the past year to Rs. 1,913, are defrayed by the Mission to Lepers in India and the East, having its head-quarters in Dublin and Edinburgh. The expenses incurred on account of other incurables amounted to Rs. 720, and were met from subscriptions collected by Mr. Hahn from funds in India, Germany, and America.

Regarding the management of these asylums, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Streatfeild, writes:—

“I have inspected these institutions recently. They are unquestionably excellently managed and doing very good work.”

A full account of the important and well-managed Leper Asylum at Purulia was given in paragraph 201 of last year's report. Unfortunately, owing to the ill-health of Revd. Mr. Uffmann, in whose charge it is, the Deputy Commissioner has been unable to obtain particulars of its working during the past year. I am able to say, however, that it continues to be maintained with the same efficiency as ever, and that the number of applicants for admission continued to steadily increase. This asylum, the largest of its kind, I believe, in India, with a total of about 500 inmates, is also maintained by the above-mentioned Society (Dublin and Edinburgh Mission to Lepers in India and the East) at an annual cost of about quarter lakh of rupees. The asylum was visited on the 29th November 1898 by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor during his tour through Chota Nagpur.

221. The Hazaribagh Zenana Hospital was in charge of a qualified lady doctor throughout the year, who treated 12 in-patients and 2,175 out-patients against 14 and 2,115 in 1897. Mrs. B. B. F. Dutt, a qualified lady doctor, was in charge of the Ranchi Zenana Hospital throughout the year. She treated 43 in-door patients and 391 out-patients during the year, besides a few other poor patients who were allowed her services gratis at their homes in the town. The number of surgical operations performed in the hospital was 15, of which 12 were performed by the lady doctor and three by the Civil Surgeon.

The midwife attached to the institution at Daltonganj attended 16 cases during the year, and is said to have acquitted herself well.

222. The following statement compares the statistics of the vaccination operations in this Division during the past two years:—

DISTRICT.	1897-98.					1898-99.				
	NUMBER OF OPERATIONS.			Total number of successful operations.	Percentage of successful operations.	NUMBER OF OPERATIONS.			Total number of successful operations.	Percentage of successful operations.
	Primary.	Revaccination.	Total.			Primary.	Revaccination.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Hazaribagh	30,194	1,676	31,870	30,893	96.9	23,079	897	23,976	23,032	97.7
Ranchi	57,905	2,330	60,235	59,079	97.1	32,310	614	32,924	31,901	96.9
Palamau	14,859	1,240	16,104	15,406	95.6	14,734	1,554	16,288	14,831	90.9
Manbhum	53,715	1,733	55,448	54,021	95.9	24,142	2,174	26,316	20,072	77.8
Singbhum	14,922	747	15,669	14,992	95.7	15,988	3,844	19,832	18,570	93.7
Total	131,694	7,722	139,316	134,393	96.4	119,302	8,783	128,085	123,015	96.4

The total number of operations performed during the year was 128,085, viz., 119,302 primary and 8,783 revaccination operations against 131,594 and 7,722, respectively, or a total of 139,316 in the preceding year. In Hazaribagh, Ranchi, and Manbhum, there was a considerable decrease in the number of primary operations, while in Singbhum there was an increase of 1,066 operations, due probably to increased efforts on the part of the local officers to stamp out the virulent attack which had broken out in certain villages bordering the Midnapore district. The low birth-rate towards the beginning of the year, immediately after the late famine, the unusually large emigration to Assam during the preceding year, and the agitation in connection with the plague, which led the people to confound vaccination operations with plague inoculation, have all contributed towards effecting a decrease in the number of primary operations. Besides these facts, during the famine year of 1896-97 about 2,000 children in the Gobindpur subdivision in Manbhum, who had been left unprotected on account of the famine, were operated in the following year (1897-98), thereby swelling the figures of that year. The increase in the number of revaccination operations is due to the prevalence of small-pox in certain parts of the districts of Palamau, Manbhum, and Singbhum. Regarding the attitude of the people towards vaccination, the Civil Medical Officer of Singbhum reports that the aborigines of the district accept vaccination without any opposition, except in very rare instances,

while the imported classes, such as Marwaries, Gowalas, Muhammadans, and upcountry men, are generally more or less obstructive. In the large village of Chakradharpur vaccination has not been accepted for five years amongst the foreign element, and he suggests that the Compulsory Vaccination Act should be introduced there. The proposal will be considered.

XXXII.—POST OFFICES AND TELEGRAPH.

246. The number of Imperial post offices in the Manbhum district increased by four, owing to the establishment of new offices at Madhutali, Kalikapur, Mahulia, and Haludpakur. In the other districts of the Division the number remained unchanged. There was no change in the mail lines of the Division, except in Singhbhum, where the opening of the Sini-Midnapore section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway necessitated alterations in the dāk arrangements, whereby the zamindari dāk line from Chaibassa to Ghatsilla was abolished from 1st November 1898 and a new line from Haldipaker to Asanboni was opened, while the mails to Dhalbhum are now sent by rail *via* Chakradharpur and Sini. A contribution of Rs. 1,200 a year has been sanctioned by Government for the maintenance of the zamindari dāk lines in the Kolhan Government Estate, and two new offices, viz., one at Katbari and the other at Gamaria, have been opened. The contribution of Rs. 1,700-10 formerly paid by the Dhalbhum Estate to the Zamindari Dāk Fund of the district was reduced during the year to Rs. 1,000; but a proposal has since been made to raise it to Rs. 1,350.

247. In Manbhum three new telegraph offices were opened during the year at Dhanbad, Katras, and Jherria. The number of offices in the other districts remain unchanged. Before the opening of the Sini-Midnapore section of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway line the post offices in Dhalbhum used to send telegraphic messages to Chaibassa for despatch. This has been discontinued, and the messages are now sent from the railway stations. This accounts for the falling off in the business of the Government office at Chaibassa, as shown in the statement in the next paragraph.

248. The transactions in the telegraphic offices of the several districts during the past two years are compared in the following table:—

DISTRICT.	Messages received.		Messages transmitted.		REMARKS.
	1897-98.	1898-99.	1897-98.	1898-99.	
1	2	3	4	5	
Hazaribagh	5,564	4,727	4,967	5,171	
Ranchi	4,319	4,700	4,546	4,934	
Palamau	2,540	2,176	2,678	2,623	
Manbhum	5,525	5,662	4,726	4,364	
Singhbhum	1,445	1,294	1,530	1,294	
Total ..	19,398	18,559	18,447	18,386	

The increase both in the number of messages received and transmitted from Ranchi was due partly to the increased use of telegraph by the public, and partly to the large number of messages received and sent during His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's visit in November 1898. The traffic in Palamau, allowing for the absence of telegrams in connection with the former scarcity, gives signs of increasing, whilst the falling off in Singhbhum has been explained above. In Hazaribagh there was a slight increase in the number of messages transmitted, but a falling off in Manbhum, which has not been explained, but may also perhaps be due to fewer trade operations than during the preceding year of scarcity.

XXXVII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

268. The most noticeable feature of the past year has been the return, owing to the late excellent harvests, of a general state of prosperity. This has at the same time been marked, especially in some districts, by an unusual number of murders, the increase in this crime being ascribed to various reasons, amongst which quarrels about crops and the increased means of obtaining drink figure conspicuously.
269. One striking fact is the number of wandering Pathans now to be met with in most of these districts, as well as the part they have lately been taking in several serious dacoities—a species of crime to which they were, I believe, but seldom addicted to formerly. I have seen a suggestion lately that the finger-impressions of these men should be taken in each district they honour with a visit. I think the suggestion a good one, more particularly in districts like these, bordering upon the Native States, where the police and villager are powerless to deal with them, and where in consequence they are becoming a regular pest.
270. A step in advance towards civilisation was marked by the opening of the Sini-Midnapore branch of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, and the turning of the first sod of the Daltonganj-Baroon Railway, after several years of uncertainty and delay. The urgent need of further opening out the Division has been noticed elsewhere in this report.
271. Chota Nagpur has happily so far been free of the plague, with the exception of one solitary instance, in April of the present year, viz., that of an imported case in the person of a Marwari of Chaibassa, who paid a flying visit to Calcutta, and fell ill three days after his return, and died on the following day.
272. The deaths occurred during the year under review of Raja Nilmony Singh Deo, of Pachete, in the Manbhum district, and of Raja Namnarain Sing, of Padma (Ramghar), in the district of Hazaribagh. They were both native gentlemen of ancient lineage, of the orthodox school, and of loyal character. Each has been succeeded by his eldest son. Amongst the Chiefs of the Native States, has to be chronicled the death of Raja Indra Deo Bahadur, of Bonai, who has been succeeded by his son Raja Chandra Deo.
273. The feeling of unrest amongst the Kols has, for a time at least, entirely subsided, and there are signs that these people are at last becoming aware of the true character of the professional agitators by whom they have for so long been exploited. Birsa Bhagwan, the semi-mad man, whose preposterous claims to the Chota Nagpur Raj, as well as to the position of a *deota*, were noticed in last year's report, has entirely disappeared, as mentioned elsewhere in this report, apparently to avoid the warrant which he no doubt knows is in force for his arrest.
274. The principal event of the year, from both an official and a non-official point of view, was the visit, an account of which has already been given, of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, during the month of November last, to the most backward and charming corner of his Province.

**RESOLUTION ON THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND
RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE, BENGAL, FOR THE
YEAR 1898-99.**

REVENUE DEPARTMENT--AGRICULTURE.

Darjeeling, the 9th November 1899.

RESOLUTION--No. 952T.R.

READ—

- (1) Letter No. 819A., dated the 11th August 1899, from the Board of Revenue, submitting the Report of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, for the year 1898-99.
- (2) The Report itself.

Read also—

- (3) The Resolution of the Government on the Report for the year 1897-98.

Mr. P. C. LYON was in charge of the Department during the whole of the year, and Messrs. Nagendra Nath Banerjee and Diyenlala Roy were the Assistant Directors employed under him. The report was submitted with commendable punctuality.

2. *Chapter II of Report.—Land Records Establishment.*—The brief account given by the Director in his present report of the working of the Land Records Maintenance Act, III (B.C.) of 1895, in the two districts of Muzaffarpur and Champaran, is not of a re-assuring nature, and supports the conclusions which he arrived at in the special report submitted by him on the subject in July 1898, that the Act has failed to attain the immediate object for which it was framed, and that any elaborate scheme devised for its working, which does not provide for a periodical revision of the records on the ground, will prove unsuccessful, and lead to unnecessary harassment of the tenantry. The Lieutenant-Governor reserves the issue of final orders on the subject until the whole question is laid before him in a comprehensive form.

3. The Act was in operation, as in the previous year, in the Hajipur and Bettiah thanas, and there were registering offices at Hajipur, Mahnar, and Bettiah. The total number of notices for registration of mutations filed during the year amounted to 3,873, of which 2,061 were voluntarily presented by the parties under section 6, and the remaining 1,812 were prepared by the Registrars of Mutations themselves under the provisions of Rule 5 of the Rules made by Government under the Act, the corresponding numbers of notices filed under these two heads during the year 1896-97 being 4,287 and 1,243, and those during the year 1897-98 being 4,063 and 2,109, respectively. The large decrease in the number of notices filed under section 6 indicates that the raiyats are no longer taking the same amount of interest in the voluntary registration of mutations of their holdings, and the evidence accumulates that a system, which depended on their prompt and faithful report of transfers, will not succeed.

4. The following table compares the number of mutations registered during the year with those registered during the preceding two years :—

THANA.	Office.	PERMANENT TENURES.						TEMPORARY TENURES.						HOLDINGS AT FIXED RATES.					
		Transfer.			Succession.			Transfer.			Succession.			Transfer.			Succession.		
		1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Bettiah Hajipur Do.	Bettiah Hajipur Mahnar	...	1 ...	...	...	...	...	41 ...	99 ...	10 ...	7 ...	6 ...	...	1 329	8 373	...	...	1 130	...
	Total	...	1 15	...	...	12 61	61 41	41 101	10 10	7 7	6 6	...	2 2	373 373	461 40	217 40	39 4	103 53	118 45

THANA.	Office.	OCCUPANCY HOLDINGS.						OTHER HOLDINGS.						Total number of mutations registered.		
		Transfer.			Succession.			Transfer.			Succession.					
		1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-99.
		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Bettiah Hajipur Do.	Bettiah Hajipur Mahnar	1,091 1,176 538	928 1,180 1,433	260 704 1,370	50 130 57	9 288 788	5 283 1,457	...	59 137 84	23 68 68	...	1 22 69	...	1,180 1,780 640	1,112 2,139 2,630	297 1,412 3,001
	Total	2,795	3,541	2,394	227	1,085	1,747	125	284	148	10	92	75	3,618	5,790	4,802

The increase in the figures for the Mahnar office is reported to be due to the clearance of heavy arrears during the year under report. The figures for the Hajipur office have considerably fallen, but the Bettiah office shows the worst result of all. Financially, the three offices worked at a net loss of Rs. 1,710 during the year as against a loss of Rs. 895 during 1897-98 and a net gain of Rs. 507 during 1896-97.

5. *Orissa Settlement Records.*—As regards the maintenance of the settlement records in the temporarily-settled estates of Orissa, a draft Bill, based on lines approved by the Government of India, for the imposition of a patwari cess and the creation of a special staff of patwaris and kanungos, together with rules for the working of the entire scheme, has been prepared, but the introduction of the scheme has been postponed pending the consideration of a special report from the Board on the comparative merits of the patwari system and of a periodic local revision of the records.

6. *Maintenance of jamabandis in Government and Wards' Estates.*—The year's record of work in the Government and Wards' Estates is, for the most part, one that leaves much to be desired. The number of tenancies in 14 of the Backergunge Government Estates in which mutations were registered, formed 11·4 per cent. of the total number, and this proportion was the highest attained in the province; but even there it is reported that no mutations were recorded in the eight other estates. The explanation of this may be sufficient, but it has not yet been offered. There was some increase in the number of mutations registered by the Burdwan Raj, but the local officials unhesitatingly maintain that under prevailing customs occupancy rights cannot be transferred without their consent, an opinion which Government has accepted. The Board have not noticed the Director's suggestion that the returns of this estate as at present prepared are useless and might be discontinued. Since it has been decided that the Manager should not be compelled to give effect to an alleged custom, the existence of which he denies, it would appear that the Director's proposal might be accepted, but the Board are desired to consider and pass orders on this matter. The Manager of the Maldwar Estate is reported to have paid great attention to the maintenance of an

accurate jamabandi; and his efforts, combined with the reduction in the mutation fees, led to a notable increase in the corrections made. Elsewhere there is little in the report of the Director of Land Records of a hopeful character; and though the Lieutenant-Governor is fully aware of the difficulties which beset the question, he is constrained to express his disappointment at the small progress made in the Government estates, where the obstacles to be overcome are least serious. He approves the action taken by the Collector of Backergunge for the improvement of the returns on his Wards' Estates.

In future reports the Director of Land Records should give particulars showing for what percentage of the number of tenants were the rent-rolls examined in the villages concerned by the Collector or his deputies, and the results of such examination as regards the number of transfers which had not been noted in the records or reported by the tahsildars. It is quite certain, from the experience in other provinces, that if such examination be properly conducted, different villages being selected yearly without any previous notice being given, much may be done to improve the present state of things, and all Collectors should understand that this is an important part of the duty of themselves and their subordinates in their winter tours. As soon as the estate officials see that this is done, marked advance will very quickly follow in the maintenance of correct records.

7. *Maintenance of boundary marks.*—The boundary marks which, according to the direction of the Board, it is incumbent on the District Collectors to have inspected, are those which have been erected in connection with cadastral and other surveys which demarcate the boundaries of estates or tenures or of lands which have been the subject of dispute in the course of settlement proceedings. As the Director of Land Records correctly points out, the District Officer can have this work adequately done only in the case of a few of the most important boundary pillars in his district; and anything like a complete inspection of the boundary marks of a district which has been cadastrally surveyed will require a carefully prepared map showing such marks and a special staff. The Lieutenant-Governor awaits the scheme now under the consideration of the Director of Land Records, and meantime is pleased to see that, in the majority of the districts, great attention is devoted to this important matter. The attention of the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division will be drawn to the remarks concerning this matter which the Director has made about the districts of Jalpaiguri and Bogra.

8. *Chapter III.—Utilisation of Land Records.*—The Lieutenant-Governor has read with much interest the remarks which the Director of Land Records has made on this subject, and though acknowledging that strictly speaking this chapter is reserved for a description of the work of a land records staff, provision for which does not at present exist in these provinces, he will be glad if the Director of Land Records will in future reports continue to show, as he has done in this, what use, so far as he can judge, has been made for administrative purposes of the record-of-rights of these districts which have been wholly dealt with. Rules requiring that in such districts the identification of lands referred to in deeds presented for registration shall take the form of a reference to the survey maps are under consideration.

Recently the Lieutenant-Governor's attention has been drawn to a remarkable decrease in the number of rioting cases in Muzaffarpur, due in part to an intelligent use, initiated by Mr. Hare in the Criminal Courts there, of the district record-of-rights, and His Honour will cause the District Magistrates who are concerned to be consulted as to the advisability of general instructions to Magistrates drawing their attention to the value of the record-of-rights in all cases dealing with land disputes. Subsequently it may be necessary to ascertain to what extent these instructions are being complied with.

9. *Chapter IV.—Scientific and National Enquiry under Imperial Control.*—The examination of various kinds of leguminous crops which was undertaken by Major Prain, I.M.S., during the year 1897-98 was finished during the year under report, but his report on the result of his investigation has not yet been published. The botanical examination of the varieties of betel leaf and sola which Dr. G. Watt, C.I.E., Reporter on Economic Products, has been making

since the years 1896-97 and 1897-98, respectively, with the help of the Agricultural Department, was in progress throughout the year. His report on the result of his investigation into the causes of the outbreak of betel-nut plague in East Bengal during the years 1895-96 and 1896-97 has not yet been received. Enquiries about *juar*, jute, *rhea*, and *dal* were also made during the year.

10. At the instance of the Government of India, enquiries were instituted during the year by this Government through the Agricultural Department into (1) the extent of the occurrence of sugarcane disease and the remedial measures adopted, and (2) the effects of the increasing imports of refined sugar from foreign countries, on the cultivation of sugarcane and the profits from the sugar industry. No definite conclusion has been arrived at as to whether the disease due to *Trichosphaeria sacchari* exists in these provinces, though it has been ascertained that the crop so far is not affected to any serious extent. The enquiries made on the second point pointed to the following conclusions:—

- (1) That the importation of foreign sugars had greatly reduced the price of refined sugars in the Indian market.
- (2) That the Indian sugar-refining industry had been much injured by this reduction in price, that a large number of refineries have been closed, and that the remaining ones were mostly working at a loss.
- (3) That the price of unrefined sugars, known as *gur* and *rab*, had not on the whole fallen.
- (4) That mainly on account of the demand for raw sugar the area under sugarcane cultivation and the profits derived from that cultivation have not diminished in the past few years.

11. *Chemical analyses of soil-water, &c.*—The services of Dr. J. W. Leather, the Assistant Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India, were utilised during the year in connection with the chemical analyses of different specimens of soils obtained from certain selected districts in East Bengal and the Orissa Division, as well as of soils impregnated with *rah* in certain tracts of the North Bihar districts. Enquiries were also made regarding the supposed injurious effects of irrigation in the districts of Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, and Champaran, where the belief is widely prevalent that certain kinds of soil, if once irrigated, must always be irrigated. The Lieutenant-Governor trusts that, as funds are available, efforts may be made to throw more light on this important question.

12. *Working of the Civil Veterinary Department.*—A separate Resolution, No. 2630, dated the 8th August 1899, has been recorded by this Government on the annual progress report of the Civil Veterinary Department, Bengal, for the year 1898-99.

13. *Experimental farms.*—As already remarked in the Government Resolution recorded on the last year's annual report, the Sibpur farm was utilised during the year as a demonstrative farm for the practical training of the students of the agricultural classes attached to the Engineering College at that place. As an experimental farm, it does not appear to have achieved results of much importance. In the Burdwan and Dumraon farms almost the same series of experiments which had been conducted during the year 1897-98 were repeated during the year under report, with identical results in most cases. As in the previous year, the experimental cultivation of paddy, sugarcane, maize, *juar*, and potatoes was tried at Burdwan, and of paddy, wheat, potatoes, maize, and *bajra* in the Dumraon farm. The trials with different varieties of sugarcane and wheat in the latter farm proved that the *khari* variety of sugarcane and the Buxar and the Muzaffarnagar (white) varieties of wheat were superior to other varieties of the same crops in regard to productiveness, and it is gratifying to find that the results thus arrived at have been practically endorsed by the neighbouring raiyats. The experiments conducted in the two farms with the Naini Tal potato showed that the method of planting cut sets was more lucrative than when whole tubers were used. As usual, seeds and manures were distributed during the year from the two farms among the neighbouring cultivators and raiyats of Wards' and Government estates.

14. *Agricultural experiments in Government, Wards', and Private Estates.*—The orders conveyed in the Resolution on the last year's annual report, calling upon managers and officers in charge of Wards' and Government estates to pay increased attention to the introduction of agricultural improvements in estates in their respective charges bore some fruit during the year under report. American maize did well in the Tributary States of Orissa, and potatoes were successfully grown in several districts. Many experiments were failures owing to untimely sowing or unsuitable seed; but such must be expected, for rapid progress in a matter of this kind cannot reasonably be depended on. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with much satisfaction the Director's mention of the names of Mr. Robindra Nath Tagore (who has also shown much enterprise in his silk-rearing experiments), Mr. Pal Chaudhuri, Babu Gauri Sankar Rai, and Babu Charu Krishna Mazumdar. There are few objects to which zamindars of means and leisure can devote their time, with greater pleasure to themselves, and greater profit to their fellow-countrymen, than experiments in the garden and the farm; and it is greatly to be desired that the example which these gentlemen have set should be widely followed.

The record of the experiments made during the year by the Agricultural Society has been read with interest.

15. *Silk experiments.*—As already remarked in the Government Resolution recorded on the last year's annual report, an important change took place in the management of sericultural operations during the year under report. Until that year the operations were conducted under the immediate control and supervision of the Agricultural Department, Government making a fixed annual grant of Rs. 3,000 for the purpose. Under the new arrangement sanctioned by Government, the entire management and control of the operations, together with the services of the travelling Sericultural Overseer and all sericultural appliances in his hands, were transferred to an independent committee consisting of members who are representatives of the chief silk firms in the Murshidabad district, on their agreeing to spend Rs. 5,000 annually, for a period of three years, for the purpose of teaching M. Pasteur's system of rearing silk-worm to the cocoon-rearers of Murshidabad, Rajshahi, Malda, and Birbhum. In appreciation of the enterprise of the Committee, Government agreed to subsidise it to the extent of Rs. 3,000 annually, on the condition that the subscriptions promised were duly paid in. Operations during the year were confined to the districts of Malda, Birbhum, and Murshidabad. In the first two districts the new system of rearing resulted in an increased produce of cocoons amounting to 50 per cent. and an increase in the selling price of the cocoons of about 60 per cent., results which are highly satisfactory. In Murshidabad the work was commenced too late in the year to show any good outturn. The receipts of the Committee during the year amounted to Rs. 6,332 against an expenditure of Rs. 7,104. Against the deficit of Rs. 772 there was a set-off of Rs. 766, the unrealised value of appliances sold. Considering this to be the first move on the part of persons directly interested in the silk industry of the country towards the adoption of European methods of silk-worm rearing, the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that the result of the year's working of the new scheme has been extremely good, and he will watch the progress of this movement with great interest.

16. The progress in the sericultural work of the Rampur Boalia Industrial School was also very satisfactory. During the year Government sanctioned an annual subsidy of Rs. 500 to the school to enable it to send out trained men into the villages for teaching the scientific method of rearing silk-worms. Its financial condition was very prosperous, the figures of receipts and expenditure being as noted on the margin. The success of the school is largely due to

the Secretary of the Committee, Babu Akhoy Kumar Maitra, who is reported to have devoted much time and ability to its welfare.

17. *Chapter VI.—Agricultural education.*—The agricultural classes at Sibpur have now been working for one year, and the results, so far as can be at present judged, though to a certain extent satisfactory, point to the necessity

	Rs.
Opening cash balance on 1st April 1898	6,470
Contributions during the year	3,764
Total	10,234
Deduct disbursements during the year	3,838
Closing balance	6,396

of extending the curriculum. Before passing orders on this point, the Lieutenant-Governor would like to see the results of another year's working of the classes.

18. *Agricultural exhibitions.*—Altogether 12 agricultural exhibitions or shows were held during the year at the places noted on the margin compared with 10 in the preceding year, and Government spent a sum of Rs. 1,670 in the distribution of prizes and certificates. Two of these exhibitions, namely those at Madhupur and Cuttack, were primarily designed for flower shows. The rest, with the exception of the Alipur and Falakata fairs, which are held for political reasons, are cattle and horse fairs, with or without exhibition of agricultural produces. The Suri Cattle and Agricultural show held in January 1899 was conspicuously successful. The Madhupur show is due to the exertions of Babu Hem Chandra Mitra, zamindar, whose efforts to improve the agriculture of his neighbours are to be commended.

19. *Cost of agricultural experiments.*—The total expenditure from Government funds during the year on agricultural enquiry and improvement (excluding the pay of the superior establishment, the expenditure on silk experiments, the cost of the Civil Veterinary Department, and the cost of maintenance of the Sibpur farm) amounted to Rs. 6,155-11-9 as against Rs. 8,408-12-7 in the preceding year. This apparent decrease is due to the transfer of the Sibpur farm, on which over Rs. 3,000 were spent last year, to the Education Department. The expenditure on seed potatoes has increased from Rs. 250 to Rs. 2,000, and that on cattle breeding from Rs. 200 to Rs. 1,037.

20. *Conclusion.*—The thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor are tendered to Mr. P. C. Lyon for the ability with which he supervised the work of the many branches of the Department during the year. The commendation bestowed by the Director on his Assistant Director, Mr. Nagendra Nath Banerjee, and his Personal Assistant on the settlement side, Mr. Rowland Nagendra Lal Chandra, will be noted by the Appointment Department.

ORDER.—Ordered that the Resolution be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and that a copy of it, together with the Report and the forwarding letter of the Board of Revenue, be submitted to the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, and a copy also be forwarded to the Board of Revenue.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

RESOLUTION ON THE FINAL REPORT ON THE SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT ESTATE OF TUSHKHALI IN THE DISTRICT OF BACKERGUNGE.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT—LAND REVENUE.

Darjeeling, the 11th November 1899.

RESOLUTION—No. 959T.R.

READ—

The Final Report on the Survey and Settlement of the Government Estate of Tushkhali in the district of Backergunge.

Read also—

Letters No. 163T.S., dated the 8th June 1899, from the Director of Land Records, and No. 718A., dated the 22nd July 1899, from the Board of Revenue, reviewing and submitting the above report

ABAD TUSHKHALI is a resumed estate, the proprietary right of which belongs to Government, consisting of about 36 square miles of land, originally jungle, on the east bank of the Baleshwar river, and intersected by a net-work of water-courses. The encroachment of the neighbouring zamindars about 1830 first drew the attention of Government to the estate, possession of which was obtained from the Court in 1836. It was not easy, however, to collect rents. The population, which now numbers about 80,000, in the proportion of 3 Muhammadans to 1 Hindu, has always been turbulent, and has proved too strong for any other than khas management. The last settlement was in 1875-76, and was for 20 years; and consequently a new survey was begun in 1894, by Babu Peari Mohan Basu, Deputy Collector. It was anticipated that the operations would cost Rs. 9,400, and be completed before the expiry of the old settlement; but these hopes were not realized, for the cost exceeded Rs. 16,000, and final publication was not made until February 1898. The Director of Land Records is of the opinion that the work could have been completed in time for the new rate of rents to come into use a year earlier than they did.

2. The estate comprises 24 villages, containing, according to the present survey, a total area of 23,038 acres, of which 21,356 acres (or about 93 per cent. of the total area) have been assessed to rent. The total area found at the previous settlement of 1875-76 was 22,754 acres, of which 21,934 acres (or 96 per cent.) were assessed. Thus though the total area has increased by 284 acres, the assessable area has decreased by 578 acres, for which satisfactory explanations are given.

3. Of the 24 villages, 3 (Algi, Badura and Mirukhali khas), containing an area of 1,934 acres (viz., 1,808 acres assessed to rent and 126 acres left out of assessment), were excluded from reassessment, because, owing to the silting up of the irrigation *khals*, the productiveness of their lands has been much diminished. This would point to the necessity of making some temporary reduction in the rents of these villages, which His Honour assumes the Board has already considered and dealt with. Measures have been taken to improve the channels, and it is expected that after five years, when it is proposed to resettle them, the restored fertility will justify an increment in the rent. While the survey and attestation were finished for the entire estate, the settlement of revenue has been made in respect of 21 villages only, containing 21,104 acres, of which 19,548 were assessed, the rest being left unassessed. Of this area, 16,501 acres are cultivated, 2,591 acres are culturable, but not cultivated, and 2,012 acres consist of homestead and other non-culturable lands, or are covered by rivers and jhils. Of the whole assessed area, a little over five-sixths is settled with raiyats and the rest with tenure-holders, while of the unassessed area, 839 acres are at the disposal of Government and 717 acres are included in the holdings of the raiyats.

4. Rice is the principal crop, covering an area of about 13,000 acres, the remaining 3,501 acres of the cultivated area of the 21 villages settled being principally occupied by fruit-bearing orchards and garden crops. Experiments were made in 1897, in which year the rice crop was estimated at 12 annas, to test the productiveness

of the best rice lands : and an outturn of 32 maunds 30 seers of paddy per acre was obtained, equal to about 22½ maunds of husked rice. The average local price of common rice being Rs. 2-13-3 a maund, the gross value per acre of the grain merely of a three-quarters crop is about Rs. 63-8, or nearly ten times the rent assessed.

5. In the 21 villages which have now been surveyed and settled, there are 3,455 tenants directly holding under Government, classed as follows:—

Incidence of holding.		are 3,455 tenants directly holding under Government, classed as follows:—					
Tenure-holders.	{ Osat talukdar	...	1	| Raiyats.	{ Settled raiyats	...	3,076
	{ Howladars	...	26		{ Occupancy raiyats	...	293
	{ Nim howladars	...	30		{ Non-occupancy raiyats	...	29

When Government recovered possession of the estate in 1830 many claims to tenures were advanced ; but it was ruled that they were the creation of mere trespassers, and all were disallowed. In 1861, however, the Board rewarded deserving raiyats by granting them tenures, and the number of tenure-holders has subsequently increased by partition.

It appears that the Settlement Officer recognized as separate tenures the subdivisions of the original tenures caused by the Mahammadan law of succession. His reasons for this policy, whereby the number of tenures was increased, are not stated. His Honour is by no means inclined to view such proceedings with favour, save under very exceptional circumstances, as it tends to increase the cost of management. He therefore trusts that the Board, if they have not already done so, will strongly impress on Settlement Officers the danger involved in recognizing as separate tenures and holdings private subdivisions of the same.

The right of transfer of their occupancy-holding was formally conceded to the raiyats in 1876, and it is widely exercised. The Muhammadans, who are prohibited from the practice of usury by their local religious teachers, evade the restriction by an ingenious exercise of the right of transfer. The borrower nominally sells his *jot* to the lender, and becomes his under-raiyat at a rate of rent frequently more than 50 per cent. above the rent payable to Government, until such time as he succeeds in repaying the loan. Then, in accordance with a verbal stipulation, he is given back his rights. This is one more illustration of the difficulties inherent in usury laws.

6. Before 1860 the rate fixed for the cultivators was an all-round average one of Re. 1-5 per bigha of the standard measure, but this was never accepted by the tenants, and great difficulties were experienced in realising rents. At the settlement of 1859-60, the lands were divided into five classes according to their productive quality and assessed accordingly; and the same division was adhered to in the settlement of 1875-76, whilst the rates were enhanced. At the present settlement the number of classes has been retained, and a very extensive redistribution of the lands therein has been made. The final report has failed to show the area under each class as compared with that of the previous settlement, or the reasons for such changes as were made. Although in paragraph 9 of his letter No. 22T., dated the 25th December 1896, the Settlement Officer, with reference to these villages, states that they have been generally improved both by natural causes and by works of improvement carried on during the currency of the past settlement, at the expense of Government, involving an expenditure exceeding Rs. 70,000, yet the results of the Settlement Officer's classification, as given in the table below, would point clearly to an opposite conclusion for which no reasons are assigned:—

Class.	Area.	
	According to former settlement.	According to present settlement.
	Bighas.	Bighas.
First	46,091	18,421
Second	5,437	24,374
Third	7,598	6,934
Fourth	24	4,794
Fifth	1,475	4,621
Total	60,625	59,144

The rent has been enhanced on account of the rise in the prices of food-grains in the last ten years, as compared with the first ten years of the old settlement, by which an increase of annas 3-4 in the rupee, or 20 per cent., could have been demanded, but this right has not been exercised to the full. The following table compares the rates fixed at the several settlements made :—

		1859-60.	1875-76.	1897-98.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1st class	...	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 14 0
2nd "	...	1 3 0	1 9 0	1 13 0
3rd "	...	1 2 0	1 6 0	1 11 0
4th "	...	1 1 0	1 5 0	1 8 0
5th "	...	1 0 0	1 3 0	1 6 0

7. As stated before, only 21 villages were affected by the present settlement, the rental of which has been increased by Rs. 8,929, from Rs. 93,282 to Rs. 1,02,211, or by 9 per cent. only. The increase has been formally accepted by all the tenants concerned without objection. This gives an average of Rs. 6-3-1 per acre of the cultivated area of 16,501 acres. The rental of the three villages not settled remains at Rs. 9,027, exclusive of Rs. 123, which is the income at present obtained from the bazars.

8. The Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to find that the relations with the tenants during the operations were, contrary to expectation, of so cordial a character; though it may perhaps be considered that the amiability they displayed was not unconnected with the great disproportion between the actual assessment made by the Assistant Settlement Officer, and that which might legally have been imposed. His Honour has noticed with regret that as regards duration and costs these operations greatly exceeded the original estimates, while as concerns the probable increase in the rent, it would appear that the anticipations, according to which the additional rent would proportionately for these villages have been about Rs. 45,000, were not based on any reliable data.

9. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with satisfaction that during the last 20 years the estate was under khas management, various works of improvements, such as embankments, bunds, tanks, roads, bridges, costing an aggregate sum of Rs. 94,257, have been executed by the Khas Tahsil Department and the District Board of Backergunge; but it is doubtful if they were registered under the Bengal Tenancy Act, a remissness which it is hoped will not recur. His Honour trusts that this subject will continue to receive the careful consideration of the officers entrusted with the management of the estate, and that each year some useful work will be executed, within the means at their disposal, which will add to the prosperity and comfort of the tenants.

10. The estate will be managed khas during the pleasure of Government, and its settlement is hereby confirmed under Rule 4 (IV), Part III, Chapter 13, page 102 of the Survey-Settlement Manual.

ORDER.—Ordered that this Resolution be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Purchase of Stores in England and locally by the General and Irrigation Branches of the Public Works Department of the Government of Bengal, during 1898-99.

No. 5162A.

Government of Bengal.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNTS.

Dated Calcutta, the 15th November 1899.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

- (1) Letter from the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, No. 4589A., dated the 18th September 1899, submitting to the Government of India, Public Works Department, the statement of expenditure on stores in the General and Irrigation Branches of the Public Works Department of the Government of Bengal for the year 1898-99.
- (2) Letter from the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, No. 14268.R., dated 25th March 1895, pointing out that, as it is understood, that several of the principal engineering firms in India now possess the apparatus necessary for the proper testing, both of the raw material and of the finished product, the fullest use should be made, subject to the prescribed precautions, of the liberty to procure supplies in India.
- (3) Resolution on the operations of the Public Works Department, Bengal, in 1897-98 in respect of purchases of stores in England and locally.

REMARKS.—The following information is published to show the operations of the Public Works Department of this Province during 1898-99, in respect to the purchase of European stores in England and locally.

2. The total value of the stores so purchased amounted to Rs. 2,96,441. This sum is made up as follows:—

	Rs.
(a) Cost of stores obtained through the Secretary of State	...
(b) Cost of stores locally purchased—	1,56,843
	Rs.
(i) Of European manufacture	92,270
(ii) Of Indian manufacture from imported material	47,328
	1,39,598
	2,96,441

3. The principal items of the stores obtained through the Secretary of State were the following:—

	Rs.
Steel joists	59,413
Iron and steel T's, L's, flats, round, channel, etc.	57,857
Portland cement	15,906
Steam Road-roller	5,781
Paints	4,833
Plate glass	4,120
Glazed Tiles	2,518
Miscellaneous	6,415
	1,56,843

None of the above articles could have been entirely manufactured in India.

4. Of stores of European manufacture locally purchased on the score of urgency the following is a detailed list:—

				Rs.
Steel joists	...	...	...	31,542
T's, L's, channels and flats	...	...	...	35,934
Corrugated-iron sheets	...	...	...	4,292
Galvanized-iron pipes	...	...	...	4,341
Portland cement	...	...	...	3,600
Silicate paint	...	...	...	1,478
Fencing	...	...	...	1,190
Mansfield gas apparatus	...	...	...	1,680
Thresh's Steam disinfectors	...	...	...	8,213
				<hr/> 92,270 <hr/>

Taking India Office prices and adding freight and incidental charges the cost of these articles if purchased through the Secretary of State is estimated at Rs. 73,098; the estimated loss to Government being 26·22 per cent. against a corresponding figure of 22·21 per cent. in the previous year.

5. The total value of stores locally manufactured from imported material, or substituted for stores formerly imported shows a slight increase over the figure of the previous year, being Rs. 47,328 against Rs. 38,726. The items making up this total are—

				Rs.
Wrought-iron roof trusses	...	...	...	13,068
Ditto Bridge-girders	...	...	...	7,500
Ditto Record racks	...	...	...	10,008
Ditto Well curbs	...	...	...	3,348
Cast-iron columns	...	...	...	6,689
Do. pipes	...	...	...	1,234
Do. grills	...	...	...	1,784
Pile shoes, and bolts and nuts	...	...	...	2,644
Raw Linseed oil	...	...	...	1,053
				<hr/> 47,328 <hr/>

6. The policy prescribed in Resolution No. 1426S.R., of the 25th March 1895, by the Government of India, continues to receive the attention of the Local Government.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be published in the Supplement to the next issue of the *Calcutta Gazette*.

Ordered, also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce; the Calcutta Trades' Association; and the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

D. JOSCELYNE,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

LIBERALITY OF BABU KANAI LAL BOGLA.

No. 641T.—M, dated Darjeeling, the 9th November 1899.

From—E. N. BAKER, Esq., Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, Municipal Dept.,
To—The Sanitary Commissioner, Bengal.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1499D., dated the 19th October 1899, in which you report that Babu Kanai Lal Bogla, of the firm of Messrs. Mongnyram Kanai Lal, of Calcutta, has given a donation of Rs. 25,000 through Rai Kailas Chandra Bose Bahadur, of Calcutta, for improving the accommodation at Puri for pilgrims visiting the shrine of Jaggernath. You state that the donor desires the money to be spent under your direction, and that you will shortly inform Government how you propose to spend the money. You suggest that in the meantime his liberality may be suitably acknowledged in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

2. In reply, I am desired to request that the thanks of the Lieutenant-Governor may be conveyed to the donor for his liberality and public spirit, and that proposals for the disposal of the money may be submitted to Government for sanction before any expenditure is incurred.

3. The correspondence will be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

WEATHER AND CROP REPORT.

For the week ending the 15th November 1899.

Burdwan.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Condition of *aman* paddy and sugarcane good. Sowing of *rabi* crops continues. Condition of cattle good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14½	} per rupee.
Kalna	13½	
Katwa	15	
Raniganj	14	

Birbhum.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Aman* promising. Harvesting of *aus* and sowing of *rabi* continue: Price of common rice at Sadar and Rampur Hat 15 seers per rupee. Fodder sufficient.

Bankura.—No rain. Weather fair and seasonable. Harvesting of *nuan* paddy continues. Sowing of *rabi* continues. Winter rice and other standing crops doing well. Sporadic cases of cow-pox reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice 16 seers per rupee at Bankura and 15 seers 10 chitaks at Vishnupur.

Midnapore.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of winter rice good. *Rabi* crops being sown. Cattle-disease reported from Salboni and Gahbeta. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. ch.	
Sadar	16 0	} per rupee.
Contai	15 8	
Tamluk	14 ¾	
Ghatal	15 0	

Hooghly.—No rain. Prospects of *aman* and *rabi* crops good. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Howrah.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Aman* doing well. Sowing of *rabi* still continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells at 13½ seers per rupee.

24-Parganas.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Harvesting of *aman* on high lands commenced. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs. ch.	
Sadar	12 0	} per rupee.
Barasat	15 0	
Basirhat	13 14	
Diamond Harbour	12 13	

Nadia.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* favourable. *Kalai* and sugarcane doing well. Sowing of *rabi* still continues. Fodder and water sufficient. Price of common rice stationary.

Murshidabad.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* favourable. *Kalai* doing well. Sowing of *rabi* continues. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	14	} per rupee.
Jangipur	14½	
Kandi	17½	

Jessore.—No rain. Weather seasonable: fine, clear and cold. Sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Prospects of *aman* paddy good. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	15 to 18	} per rupee.
Jhenida	18	
Magura	17	
Narail	16	
Bangaon	16 to 17	

Khulna.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of *aman* continue favourable. Cultivation of lands for the *rabi* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

	Srs.	
Sadar	16½	} per rupee.
Dagerhat	16	
Satkhira	14	

Rajshahi.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Standing crops doing well. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice sells at 17½ seers per rupee.

Dinajpur.—Rainfall nil. Weather cool. Standing crops good. Cattle-disease reported from Bunshihari. Fodder and water plentiful. Common rice 16 seers per rupee.

Jalpaiguri.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Haimanti* paddy is in excellent condition. Transplantation of tobacco and sowing of mustard commenced. Common rice sells at 14½ seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Darjeeling.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Hills*—*Haimanti* paddy, *bara marun*, *kalai*, *phaphar*, wheat, barley and *tori* are progressing. *Terai*—*Haimanti* paddy, potatoes, and mustard are doing well. Coarse rice sells as follows :—

				Srs.	
Hills	...	...	...	9	} per rupee.
Terai	...	...	...	17	

Bhutta sells at Darjeeling 20 seers and at Kalimpong 32 seers per rupee.

Rangpur.—No rain. *Rabi* crops are being sown. Prospects of crops good. Common rice selling at 16½ seers per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient. Cattle-disease prevailing in Nilphamari.

Bogra.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. Cultivation of *rabi* crops going on. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice selling at 18 seers per rupee.

Pabna.—No rain. Weather fine and cool. Prospects of crops good. Price of common rice 14 seers 11 chitaks per rupee.

Dacca.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Harvesting of paddy going on. Fodder available. No cattle-disease. Price of common rice stationary.

Mymensingh.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows :—

				Srs.	
Sadar	18	} per rupee.
Tangail	...	...	...	18
Netrokona	...	...	...	17
Kishoriganj	...	...	...	17
Jamalpur	...	...	...	16

Backergunge.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of crops fair. Common rice sells at 14 seers per rupee.

Faridpur.—No rain. Weather seasonable. State and prospects of crops generally good. Common rice sells at 15 seers per rupee.

Tipperra.—No rain. Weather seasonably cool. *Aman* paddy doing well. Pulses being harvested. Lands being prepared for spring crops. Average price of common rice 17 seers per rupee.

Noakhali.—No rain. Prospects of crops good. Cultivation of land for *rabi* crops going on. Treatment of cattle-disease at Chagalnaya continues. The disease at Senbag abated. Fodder and water good. Common rice (*aman*) 16 seers and (*aus*) 18 seers per rupee.

Chittagong.—Rainfall .02. Prospects of crops good. Water and fodder sufficient. Common rice 15 seers per rupee.

Patna.—No rain. Prospects of paddy fair. Sowing of *rabi* still continues. Weeding of *rabi* commenced in many places. Condition of cattle good. Fodder and water for cattle plentiful. Common rice in Patna sells at 17 seers per rupee.

Gaya.—No rain. Early paddy being harvested. *Rabi* and poppy being sown. Common rice selling at 15 seers per rupee.

Shahabad.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* being sown. Paddy partly died out for want of rain. Fodder and water abundant. Seventy-five cases of cattle-disease in Sasaram. Common rice at Sadar 12 seers per rupee.

Saran.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder and water sufficient. Average prices are—Common rice 13 seers 2 chitaks and *makai* 14 seers 1 chitak per rupee.

Champaran.—No rain. Winter rice maturing. Prospects moderate. *Rabi* sowing still proceeding and germinating well. Poppy sowing progressing, although retarded by heat. Price of common rice 14½ seers and maize 16½ seers per rupee.

Muzaffarpur.—Rainfall nil. *Rabi* sowings in progress. Prospects good. Prices are—Common rice 12½ seers, wheat 13½ seers, barley 16 seers, *makai* 16 seers, gram 14 seers, *rahar* 14½ seers, and *marua* 20 seers per rupee.

Darbhanga.—No rain. Weather temperate. Prospects of standing crops good. *Rabi* sowings going on. Fodder and water sufficient. No cattle-disease reported. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs. ch.	
Sadar	...	...	...	11 0	} per rupee.
Samastipur	...	...	...	14 0	
Madhubani	...	...	...	13 13	

Monghyr.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Rabi* sowings continue. Prospects of standing crops fair. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Monghyr	...	...	...	12½	} per rupee.
Beguserai	...	...	...	12	
Jamui	...	...	...	13½	

Bhagalpur.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Winter rice in ear and doing well. *Rabi* sowings continue. Cattle-disease all over the district. Fodder and water sufficient. Prices of common rice are as follows:—

				Srs. ch.	
Sadar	15 2	} per rupee.
Supaul	...	...	...	18 0
Madhipura	...	...	...	13 0
Banka	...	...	...	12 13

Purnea.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Prospects of, *aghani* rice good. *Rabi* sowings commenced. No cattle-disease reported. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs.	
Sadar	...	...	...	16	} per rupee.
Kishanganj	...	...	...	17	

Malda.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Sowing of *rabi* crops going on. Prospects of standing crops good. Fodder and water sufficient. No cattle-disease. Coarse rice selling at 16 seers per rupee.

Sonthal Parganas.—No rain. Prospects of crops very good. Outting of paddy has begun. Cattle-disease reported from Rajmahal. Average price of common rice 13 seers 6 chitaks and Indian-corn 19 seers 10 chitaks per rupee. Fodder and water sufficient.

Cuttack.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* ripening and being reaped in places, *Guru sarad* in ear. *Arhar* and sugarcane growing. Condition of cattle generally good. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs. ch.	
Cuttack	14 7	} per rupee.
Jajpur	...	...	...	17 1
Kendrapara	...	...	...	19 11
Banki	...	...	...	16 0

Balasore.—Rainfall nil. *Sarad* in ear. *Au* being harvested. Sowing of *rabi* crops continues. Sugarcane good. Rice sells at 18½ seers per rupee in the interior, and at 16 and 18 seers per rupee at Balasore and Bhadrak respectively. Cattle-disease reported from Basudevpur and Dhamnagar Circles. Fodder and water sufficient.

Angul.—No rain. Paddy in ear and in some places *laghu* paddy ripening. Gathering of *biri* commenced. Other *rabi* sowings completed. Cotton being gathered. Sugarcane doing well. More rain wanted for *rabi*. Fodder sufficient. Common rice sells at 16 seers per rupee at Angul and 8½ seers at Bisipara.

Puri.—No rain. Weather seasonable. *Laghu sarad* being harvested. *Bera sarad* in flower. *Kulthi*, *biri*, and other pulses thriving. Sugarcane being pressed. Fodder and water sufficient. Common rice sells as follows:—

				Srs. ch.	
Sadar	...	...	...	13 2	} per rupee.
Khurda	...	...	...	14 0	
Interior of district	...	...	...	14 2	

Test-works discontinued except in Satpara and Malud, which have been opened quite recently.

Hazaribagh.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of rice in progress. Common rice sells at 12 seers per rupee.

Ranchi.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. Harvesting of winter rice continues. Rice selling at Ranchi 10 seers, and in the interior 18½ seers per rupee. No cattle-disease. Fodder and water sufficient.

Palamau.—No rain. Weather seasonable. Rain urgently required for *rabi* sowing. Prices at Sadar are—Common rice 11 seers 5 chitaks, barley 15 seers 12 chitaks, *makai* 13 seers 8 chitaks, *gram* 14 seers 10 chitaks, *marua* 16 seers 14 chitaks, wheat 11 seers 5 chitaks and *mahua* 33 seers 12 chitaks per rupee. Cattle-disease reported from a few places. Fodder and water sufficient.

Manbhum.—Rainfall nil. Weather seasonable. *Bhadai* crops fair. Winter rice an average crop. *Rabi* crops promise well. Cattle-disease reported from thanas Purulia, Topohanchi, and Tundi. Fodder and water sufficient. Average price of common rice at Sadar 13½ seers and at Gobindpur 12 seers per rupee. Supply sufficient.

Singhbhum.—No rain. *Rabi* crop needs rain. Rice sells at 12 seers on the railway line hat, 13 seers in Chaibassa; average price in district, 16 seers 5 chitaks per rupee.

General Summary.—No rain has been reported during the week except a slight shower in Chittagong. The general prospects of the crops continue practically the same as in the previous week. The rice crop is maturing, and on the high lands the harvesting has begun in some districts. The sowing of the spring crops is going on except in some parts of the Chota Nagpur Division, where it is retarded for want of rain. The *rabi* crops in Angul are also in need of some more rain. The test-works in Puri have been discontinued except those at Satpara and Malud, which have been opened quite recently. No important change in the price of common rice is reported except at Bisipara in Angul, where it rose from 12 to 8½ seers a rupee. Cattle-disease is reported from a few districts. Fodder is everywhere plentiful.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. A. SLACK,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
The 14th November 1899.

Meteorological Report of the Province

METEOROLOGICAL DIVISION.	DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	Representative stations.	STATION OBSERVATIONS.											
				AIR PRESSURE.						WIND.		TEMPERATURE.			
				Highest, 8 A.M., barometer reading.	Lowest 8 A.M., barometer reading.	Mean, 8 A.M., reduced to 32°.	Mean reduced to sea-level and constant gravity, Lat. 45°.	Variation from normal mean.	Mean direction at 8 A.M.	Mean velocity in miles daily.	Highest of month.	Lowest of month.	Mean daily maximum temperature.	Mean daily minimum temperature.	Mean daily temperature.
SOUTH-WEST BUREAU.	Burdwan ...	Burdwan ...	Burdwan ...	29.988	29.766	29.864	29.912	+0.040	S45°W	34	92.9	68.3	87.9	74.1	81.0
		Baniganj ...	Baniganj ...	29.717	29.537	29.616	29.905	—	S30°W	32	96.3	66.0	86.5	70.7	80.7
		Birbhum ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Bankura ...	Bankura ...	29.744	29.547	29.630	29.884	—	N77°E	26	94.6	67.6	86.7	72.3	80.2
		Midnapore ...	Midnapore ...	29.694	29.605	29.600	29.886	+0.033	S35°W	35	94.3	67.3	86.2	72.3	80.7
	Presidency ...	Roochly ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Howrah ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		24-Parganas ...	Saugor Island ...	29.030	29.722	29.826	29.898	+0.046	N34°E	190	90.9	67.6	86.6	74.9	80.8
		Calcutta ...	Calcutta ...	29.031	29.635	29.638	29.905	+0.046	N34°W	73	91.9	69.3	87.3	73.7	80.4
		Nadia ...	Krishnagar ...	29.005	29.800	29.917	29.914	—	S3°E	61	93.3	64.3	87.9	72.3	80.2
NORTH BUREAU.	Rajshahi ...	Murshidabad ...	Berhampore ...	29.988	29.776	29.883	29.904	+0.037	S0°W	37	91.2	65.1	86.7	73.3	80.3
		Jessore ...	Jessore ...	29.966	29.761	29.923	29.903	+0.043	N45°E	30	92.0	65.3	87.1	73.7	80.4
		Khulna ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Rajshahi ...	Rampur Boalia ...	29.988	29.765	29.880	29.900	+0.046	N63°W	33	91.6	64.1	86.9	73.7	80.3
		Dinajpur ...	Dinajpur ...	29.930	29.764	29.840	29.920	+0.065	N45°E	72	91.3	69.8	86.7	72.0	79.4
	Dacca ...	Jalpaiguri ...	Jalpaiguri ...	29.800	29.585	29.693	29.916	+0.040	N60°E	45	90.4	64.1	85.9	70.3	78.1
		Darjeeling ...	Darjeeling ...	23.184	23.971	23.006	—	+0.042	N64°E	80	87.3	48.5	61.4	46.8	55.1
		Cooch Behar ...	Cooch Behar ...	29.690	29.729	29.618	29.934	—	S36°E	36	90.9	65.6	85.7	71.4	78.6
		Rangpur ...	Rangpur ...	29.927	29.731	29.843	29.922	+0.047	S76°E	45	92.2	61.7	87.0	71.3	79.6
		Bogra ...	Bogra ...	29.973	29.763	29.861	29.906	—	—	—	90.3	65.4	85.9	73.0	79.6
SOUTH BUREAU.	Chittagong ...	Pabna ...	Sirajganj ...	29.969	29.745	29.858	29.908	+0.036	S2°W	33	89.8	66.8	85.9	73.9	79.9
		Dacca ...	Narayanganj ...	29.012	29.756	29.931	29.905	+0.051	E	92	90.1	60.3	86.6	75.6	81.1
		Mymensingh ...	Mymensingh ...	29.978	29.735	29.856	29.907	+0.052	N45°E	6	89.7	?	85.1	?	?
		Faridpur ...	Faridpur ...	29.007	29.754	29.918	29.913	+0.047	S11°E	40	91.3	65.9	86.7	73.4	80.7
		Sackergunge ...	Barisal ...	29.030	29.769	29.946	29.904	+0.059	N11°E	39	91.3	65.6	86.3	74.4	80.3
	Patna ...	Tippera ...	Comilla ...	29.987	29.791	29.921	29.906	—	S50°E	36	92.3	64.9	87.0	73.4	80.7
		Noakhali ...	Noakhali ...	29.000	29.768	29.916	29.906	—	N27°E	36	89.7	63.6	85.5	71.9	78.7
		Chittagong ...	Chittagong ...	29.943	29.776	29.904	29.900	+0.035	N06°E	34	90.5	65.1	86.0	73.2	79.9
		Chittagong Hill Tracts ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Patna ...	Bankipore ...	29.867	29.677	29.771	29.910	+0.038	S23°E	76	93.5	62.3	86.3	72.4	80.0
NORTH BUREAU.	Patna ...	Gaya ...	Gaya ...	29.690	29.493	29.579	29.916	+0.046	S1°E	70	97.4	61.7	92.5	69.8	81.1
		Dahri ...	Dahri ...	29.708	29.485	29.57	29.901	+0.030	S24°W	61	90.3	63.0	91.4	69.5	80.6
		Dhahabad ...	Buzar ...	29.806	29.583	29.686	29.883	+0.017	S30°W	61	95.5	61.5	91.2	69.5	80.6
		Arrah ...	Arrah ...	29.870	29.661	29.764	29.901	—	S27°E	43	95.9	61.0	91.1	69.0	80.1
		Narao ...	Chapra ...	29.683	29.679	29.769	29.908	—	N63°E	?	93.3	61.4	90.4	70.3	80.0
	Bhagalpur ...	Champaran ...	Motihari ...	29.850	29.625	29.736	29.912	—	N64°E	42	93.0	67.9	86.6	69.1	78.9
		Muzaffarpur ...	Muzaffarpur ...	29.807	29.634	29.779	29.913	—	S79°E	4	91.7	61.8	88.2	71.1	79.6
		Darbhanga ...	Darbhanga ...	29.806	29.600	29.763	29.908	+0.083	S75°E	46	91.3	63.9	87.6	72.9	80.2
		Monghyr ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Bhagalpur ...	Bhagalpur ...	29.838	29.706	29.791	29.908	+0.051	Calm	?	92.7	60.3	86.1	71.1	79.6
ORISSA.	Orissa ...	Purnea ...	Purnea ...	29.935	29.743	29.830	29.912	+0.044	N63°E	66	94.3	59.3	87.1	72.3	79.7
		Malda ...	Malda ...	29.976	29.791	29.879	29.904	—	N76°E	30	92.1	63.0	84.9	71.9	79.6
		Sonthal Parganas ...	Naya Dumka ...	29.800	29.568	29.666	29.912	+0.050	S70°E	30	92.0	61.6	87.0	69.9	78.6
		Outtack ...	Outtack ...	29.931	29.751	29.873	29.907	+0.046	N36°E	36	90.4	69.2	89.5	74.5	81.5
		False Point ...	False Point ...	29.016	29.774	29.920	29.991	+0.043	N31°W	133	92.5	69.1	87.5	74.5	81.0
	Orissa ...	Balasore ...	Balasore ...	29.907	29.723	29.903	29.900	+0.053	N57°W	76	92.4	69.3	87.9	72.4	80.3
		Short's Island ...	Short's Island ...	29.008	29.761	29.923	29.906	—	N5°E	122	93.0	73.6	87.8	79.3	83.5
		Puri ...	Puri ...	29.023	29.797	29.933	29.906	—	N12°E	196	96.7	71.6	89.6	76.8	83.2
		Gopalpur ...	Gopalpur ...	29.006	29.803	29.925	29.903	—	N17°W	217	94.2	70.1	87.8	74.1	81.9
		Hazaribagh ...	Hazaribagh ...	29.044	27.846	27.945	29.917	+0.045	S68°W	125	91.2	58.7	86.5	66.0	76.3
CHOTA NAAGPUR.	Ranchi ...	Ranchi ...	27.915	27.733	27.821	29.913	+0.050	S73°W	87	92.7	60.0	86.3	65.0	75.7	
	Palaman ...	Daltonganj ...	29.334	29.143	29.218	29.926	—	N66°E	93	90.1	51.0	89.8	61.3	77.1	
	Manbhum ...	Purnia ...	29.240	29.055	29.153	29.907	—	N45°W	?	94.3	65.0	86.7	66.9	75.3	
	Waghbhum ...	Chaitanya ...	29.279	29.093	29.163	29.905	—	N21°W	18	95.4	64.0	89.7	60.1	79.4	
	Sibsonar ...	Sibsonar ...	29.760	29.555	29.658	29.963	+0.048	N	36	89.7	64.5	83.8	69.6	76.2	
CHOTA NAAGPUR.	Goalpara ...	Dhubri ...	29.960	29.741	29.854	29.926	+0.039	N77°E	79	88.7	65.7	83.5	72.7	79.1	
	Cachar ...	Bilchar ...	29.971	29.776	29.864	29.942	+0.071	N45°E	38	93.0	63.4	87.9	72.4	80.3	

val for the month of October 1899.

				DISTRICT OBSERVATIONS.											
CLOUD.				RAINFALL—											
				Of month.					Since 10th October 1899.						
Variation from normal mean.	Mean cloud amount, 8 A.M.	Variation from normal mean, 8 A.M.	Rain-fall.	Mean of district.	Normal mean.	Variation from mean.	Number of rainy days.	Normal mean number of rainy days.	Mean of district.	Normal mean.	Variation.	Mean number of rainy days.	Normal mean number of rainy days.	DISTRICT.	
+3	2.6	-1.7	3.03	2.80	3.39	-0.59	3.50	4.30	1.24	1.21	+0.03	1.30	1.43	Burdwan.	
-	2.7	-	3.25												
				3.08	3.23	-0.15	3.75	4.43	1.05	1.19	+0.14	1.75	1.38	Birbhum.	
	3.0	-	3.13	3.33	3.16	+0.17	3.70	4.23	1.23	1.21	+0.02	1.70	1.45	Bankura.	
	3.0	-	3.33	4.23	4.43	-0.20	3.67	5.11	1.23	1.05	-0.18	1.50	1.62	Midnapore.	
				3.97	4.11	-1.14	3.33	5.28	0.57	1.53	-0.96	1.33	1.73	Hoochly.	
				3.43	3.75	-0.33	3.00	5.43	0.66	1.42	-0.76	1.00	1.73	Howrah.	
0	4.7	-0.6	7.84	4.46	5.28	-0.82	3.71	5.06	1.43	3.27	-0.84	3.00	1.06	24-Parganas.	
+3	3.3	-1.7	3.02	3.03	4.30	-1.27	3.00	6.04	1.30	1.31	-0.01	1.00	1.30	Calcutta.	
-	3.7	-	3.79	3.14	4.12	-0.98	3.30	5.17	1.30	1.03	+0.27	1.30	1.71	Nadia.	
+5	5.0	-1.3	3.39	3.91	3.68	+0.23	3.25	4.70	3.45	1.23	+1.07	3.13	1.40	Murshidabad.	
+3	3.5	-1.7	3.08	3.37	4.34	-0.97	3.20	5.33	3.00	1.97	+0.03	3.00	1.03	Jessore.	
				5.12	4.94	+0.18	3.00	5.72	3.72	3.16	+0.54	3.33	1.03	Khulna.	
-	3.4	-	3.05	3.24	3.47	-0.23	3.33	4.36	2.20	1.11	+1.15	1.33	1.31	Rajahm.	
-	3.5	-	1.57	0.96	3.75	-2.79	3.75	3.74	0.70	1.10	-0.40	1.50	1.18	Dinajpur.	
-	1.7	-	1.74	2.13	4.43	-2.37	4.25	4.15	1.35	1.43	-0.08	1.75	1.50	Jalpaiguri.	
+11	4.6	-1.3	1.33		0.16			5.39		3.30			1.03	Darjeeling.	
-	6.3	-	2.59	1.96	5.40	-3.43	3.50	4.03	0.89	1.71	-0.82	2.33	1.50	Cooch Behar.	
-	2.2	-	1.90	3.03	4.70	-1.63	3.40	3.79	2.23	1.44	+0.82	1.00	1.12	Rangpur.	
-	2.3	-	0.24	3.60	4.24	-0.35	4.00	4.63	3.13	1.54	+1.45	2.50	1.13	Hogra.	
-	4.0	-	4.13	3.66	4.14	-0.48	3.00	5.19	3.07	1.03	+1.45	2.00	1.39	Pabna.	
0	4.7	+0.4	3.89	3.85	4.22	-0.37	3.00	5.33	2.33	1.32	+1.11	2.30	1.30	Dacca.	
-	5.3	-	0.03	6.16	5.03	+1.11	3.57	4.91	4.06	1.73	+2.33	3.46	1.32	Mymensingh.	
-	3.7	-	0.37	0.33	6.31	+2.04	0.00	5.49	4.49	1.74	+2.75	3.33	3.00	Faridpur.	
-	3.9	-	14.71	15.45	5.93	+0.23	7.33	6.43	13.03	2.21	+10.74	4.50	2.13	Sackergunge.	
-	4.0	-	6.16		4.60			5.10		2.15			2.13	Tippera.	
-	4.3	-	18.89	14.79	7.73	+7.06	0.00	7.13	13.10	2.05	+9.15	5.75	3.22	Noakhali.	
1	4.3	-0.9	22.35	23.32	6.74	+17.08	7.50	6.69	23.14	3.10	+20.04	6.80	3.05	Chittagong.	
1	1.4	-2.3	1.93	1.48	3.06	-1.47	1.00	3.15	1.48	1.03	+0.45	1.00	2.71	Chittagong Hill Tracts, Karna.	
1	1.6	-3.1	0.42	0.68	2.31	-1.63	1.12	2.36	0.63	0.73	-0.10	1.12	1.01	Gaya.	
-	1.3	-	1.00											Shehabad.	
-	1.1	-	0.80	0.34	2.37	-2.03	0.33	2.75	0.34	1.05	-0.71	0.33	1.00		
-	0.1	-	3.03											Saran.	
-	0.5	-	0.43	0.40	3.40	-3.03	1.00	3.74	0.45	0.38	-0.52	1.00	0.63		
-	0.4	-	0.10	0.34	3.31	-3.27	1.00	3.53	0.34	0.36	-0.52	1.00	0.60	Champanan.	
-	0.05	-	2.31	1.95	2.94	-0.99	1.14	3.43	1.06	0.63	+1.12	1.14	0.71	MusaHaripur.	
+2	1.8	-1.4	3.14	2.74	3.10	+0.34	1.00	2.43	2.74	0.67	+2.07	1.00	0.70	Darbhanga.	
				0.58	2.36	-1.78	1.00	2.53	0.53	0.76	-0.23	0.50	0.90	Monghyr.	
-	0.24	-	0.10	0.63	3.59	-1.36	0.34	3.04	0.45	0.39	-0.45	0.67	0.39	Shagailpur.	
+2	1.3	-1.6	0.12	0.04	3.08	-3.04	0.00	3.17	0.08	1.00	-0.97	0.00	0.32	Purnea.	
-	3.1	-	3.13	1.45	3.45	-2.00	2.35	3.31	1.05	1.13	-0.10	1.50	0.31	Malda.	
-	2.8	-	1.43	1.10	3.57	-2.47	2.50	4.16	0.31	1.14	-0.53	1.50	1.10	Sonthal Pargan.	
+3	3.4	-0.6	11.33	9.00	5.25	+3.15	3.35	6.75	0.34	2.76	-3.12	1.23	2.63	Outback.	
1	3.8	-1.3	3.01												
-	3.3	-	0.15	7.50	3.09	+2.41	3.14	3.70	0.77	1.95	-1.18	1.71	2.30	Balesore.	
-	3.9	-	7.40											Short's Island.	
-	3.9	-	3.73	9.35	6.91	+2.44	4.30	7.99	0.62	3.71	-3.09	1.30	3.00		
-	1.6	-	11.73											Puri.	
-13	3.3	-1.3	0.24	0.33	3.44	-3.16	1.17	4.31	0.13	1.13	-0.38	0.67	1.02		
-	2.4	-	0.18	0.27	2.43	-2.15	0.67	3.73	0.01	0.93	-0.97	0.00	1.42	Hazaribagh.	
-	1.1	-	0.01		2.73			2.31		1.10			1.11	Ranchi.	
-	1.5	-	0.76	1.01	3.03	-1.61	1.50	3.91	0.13	0.66	-0.73	0.33	1.30	Palamau.	
-	+1.4	-	1.74	2.36	2.97	-0.11	2.30	4.33	0.43	1.13	-0.70	1.50	1.70	Manbhum.	
+3	3.2	+1.3	3.35											Singbhum.	
1	0.3	+2.1	2.33											Sibsonar.	
+1	3.4	+1.6	13.31											Dhubri.	
														Oachar.	

Table of Rainfall recorded at station

Meteorological Division.		Rainfall recorded at stations.																			
Division.	District.	Station.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Burdwan.	Burdwan	Kalna	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.50	0.50	...	...
		Burdwan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.95	0.94	...	...
		Kutwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.24	1.30	...	...
	Birbhum	Raniganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.18	1.02	...	...
		Mankur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.31	1.55	...	...
		Bori	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.06	2.32	...	...
	Bankura	Helampur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.05	1.78	...	...
		Rampur Hat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.55	1.75	...	...
		Bolpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.25	1.12	...	...
Burdwan.	Bankura	Murari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.02	1.03	...	...
		Lalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.74	1.49	...	...
		Hankura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.18	0.77	...	...
	Midnapore	Vishnupur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.81	1.72	...	...
		Mahara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.95	1.34	...	...
		Khatra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.08	0.50	...	...
	Hooghly	Indas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.80	0.40	...	...
		Kotalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.15	...	...	...
		Onda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.40	1.80	...	...
Burdwan.	Midnapore	Gangajalghati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00	1.28	...	...
		Baipur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.05	0.27	...	...
		Bonamukhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.61	2.45	...	...
	Hooghly	Contai	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.30	3.02	...	...
		Tamluk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.05	0.46	...	...
		Midnapore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.15	0.30	...	...
	Howrah	Ghatol	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	3.40	...	...
		Kukurhaty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.80	0.23	...	...
		Gurubeta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.00	0.11	...	...
Burdwan.	Howrah	Dantura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.43	0.80	...	...
		Hooghly	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.87	1.98	...	...
		Jahannabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.61	0.45	...	...
	24-Parganas	Howrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.40	1.00	...	...
		Moharaka	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.12	0.19	...	...
		Uttarbaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.55	1.15	...	...
	24-Parganas	Saugur Island	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.80	0.25	0.02	...
		Diamond Harbour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.88	1.10	...	...
		Canning Town	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.00	1.40	...	...
Burdwan.	24-Parganas	Alipore (Obay)	0.02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.70	1.21	...	...
		Barraekpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.70	0.45	...	...
		Dum Dum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.04	0.84	...	...
	Nadia	Barasat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.45	2.70	...	...
		Basirhat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.95	0.25	...	...
		Ranaghat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.55	1.12	...	...
	Murshidabad	Krishnagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.20	1.13	...	...
		Ohauadanga	0.28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.85	1.84	0.01	...
		Meherpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.25	1.73	0.01	...
Burdwan.	Murshidabad	Kushia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.75	1.05	...	...
		Kandi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.80	2.00	...	...
		Berhampore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.41	1.60	0.01	...
	Jessore	Lalbagh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.17	1.73	...	...
		Arumganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.12	1.62	...	...
		Jangipur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.92	0.84	...	...
	Jessore	Lalgaia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.30	5.30	...	...
		Akriganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.50	1.90	...	...
		Patkhabari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.25	1.90	...	...
Burdwan.	Jessore	Dumkal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.24	0.40	...	...
		Narail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.80	1.18	...	...
		Jessore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.50	0.40	...	...
	Khulna	Jhenidah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.46	1.08	0.01	...
		Mazura	0.18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.14	0.62	...	...
		Bangaon	0.26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.05	0.30	...	...
	Rajshahi	Batkhira	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.45	1.70	0.02	...
		Ragerhat	0.02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.90	1.19	...	...
		Khulna	0.06	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.40	...	...	...
Burdwan.	Rajshahi	Kaliyaganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.44	0.87	...	...
		Nakipur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.95	0.50	...	...
		Dumuria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.70	1.40	...	...
	Dinajpur	Kampal	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.54	1.54	...	...
		Kalaroa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.10	1.70	...	...
		Paikpacha	0.37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.34	...	...	...
	Dinajpur	Mollahat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.87	2.38	0.01	...
		Murelliganj	0.28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.09	1.73	0.02	...
		Baolia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.40	2.40	...	...
Burdwan.	Dinajpur	Nator	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.18	2.14	...	...
		Naugon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.45	2.12	...	...
		Lalpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	1.57	...	...
	Jalpaiguri	Mahadebpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.07	1.15	...	...
		Manda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.34	1.45	...	...
		Nithpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.20	0.99	...	...
	Jalpaiguri	Nawabganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.17	0.38	...	...
		Gangarampur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.22	0.95	...	...
		Churama	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.32	0.45	...	...
Burdwan.	Jalpaiguri	Raiganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.06	...	...	...
		Dinajpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.08	0.40	...	...
		Balukhat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.98	...	...
	Jalpaiguri	Thakurgaon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.24	0.38	...	...
		Natabganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.25	0.60	...	...
		Rongganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	0.40	...	...
	Darjeeling	Jalpaiguri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.08	0.40	...	...
		Alipore Dar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.98	...	...
		Pallacotta	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.38	0.18	...	...
Burdwan.	Darjeeling																				

Bengal in October 1899.

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Number of rainy days.	Average number of rainy days.	Total rainfall for the month.	Average rain-fall for the month.	Highest rain-fall during the month.	Total rainfall from 1st Oct. to 31st Oct., 1889.	Average rain fall from 1st October to 31st October.	Station.	District.	Division.	Meteorological Division.
1	0.15	0.04	4.39	4.39	2.48	3.81	1.60	0.88	1.79	Kalna	Burdwan.	Burdwan.	SOUTH-WEST BENGAL.
2	0.30	0.27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.37	4.37	3.60	3.61	1.75	1.71	1.57	Burdwan.	Burdwan.	Burdwan.
3	0.11	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.34	4.34	2.63	3.78	1.39	1.41	1.72	Katwa.	Burdwan.	Burdwan.
4	0.07	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.35	4.35	2.35	3.31	1.18	1.07	1.23	Raniganj.	Burdwan.	Burdwan.
5	0.08	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.34	4.34	2.34	3.34	1.33	1.03	0.74	Mankur.	Burdwan.	Burdwan.
6	0.32	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.73	4.73	3.30	3.49	1.33	2.64	1.31	Suri	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
7	0.08	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.14	4.14	2.40	3.06	1.78	1.85	1.08	Hetampur.	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
8	0.05	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.41	4.41	3.09	3.75	1.76	2.14	1.43	Rampur Hat.	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
9	0.79	0.21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.18	4.18	2.43	3.00	1.28	1.17	0.78	Bolpur.	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
10	0.17	0.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.01	3.01	?	?	?	2.59	?	Morari.	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
11	0.11	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.35	3.35	?	?	?	1.40	?	Ladpur.	Birbhum.	Birbhum.
12	0.25	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.13	3.13	3.33	2.18	0.94	1.60	1.60	Bankura.	Bankura.	Bankura.
13	0.16	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.06	4.06	4.41	3.10	2.90	3.21	1.21	Vishnupur.	Bankura.	Bankura.
14	0.10	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.08	4.08	2.70	3.09	1.30	1.34	1.23	Malina.	Bankura.	Bankura.
15	0.43	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.08	4.08	3.73	3.77	3.04	0.63	1.13	Khatra.	Bankura.	Bankura.
16	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.73	3.73	2.36	2.61	1.90	0.76	0.76	Indas.	Bankura.	Bankura.
17	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.36	3.36	1.15	3.31	1.13	NH	1.84	Kotalpur.	Bankura.	Bankura.
18	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.18	3.18	2.35	3.08	1.80	1.06	0.96	Onda.	Bankura.	Bankura.
19	0.10	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.37	3.37	3.18	2.20	1.90	1.28	0.91	Gangajalghati.	Bankura.	Bankura.
20	0.43	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.56	3.56	4.41	4.44	3.95	0.46	2.06	Raipur.	Bankura.	Bankura.
21	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.74	4.74	5.24	3.44	2.63	2.79	0.94	Bonamukhi.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
22	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.23	4.23	4.15	7.40	3.01	0.84	4.08	Ontai.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
23	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.15	4.15	5.03	4.32	3.03	1.21	2.20	Tamluk.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
24	0.40	0.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.55	4.55	3.32	3.23	2.95	0.57	2.05	Midnapore.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
25	0.04	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.53	4.53	3.32	3.23	2.95	0.09	0.76	Ghatol.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
26	0.15	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.64	4.64	4.85	2.66	3.40	3.96	1.39	Nukrahaty.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
27	0.05	0.07	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	?	?	4.22	?	3.00	0.03	?	Garibhata.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
28	0.04	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.12	6.12	4.29	?	4.10	0.28	?	Panskura.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
29	0.04	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.23	6.23	2.77	4.45	1.93	0.84	1.80	Dantoon.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.
30	0.13	0.02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	3.04	3.98	1.87	1.17	1.37	Serampore.	Hooghly.	Hooghly.
31	0.01	0.02	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.12	6.12	3.10	3.89	3.51	0.59	1.42	Hooghly.	Hooghly.	Hooghly.
32	0.02	0.07	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.71	4.71	2.43	4.23	1.40	1.03	1.08	Jahanabad.	Hooghly.	Hooghly.
33	0.32	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.71	4.71	4.70	3.28	4.12	0.28	0.98	Howrah.	Howrah.	Howrah.
34	0.11	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6.15	6.15	7.84	0.14	5.50	1.21	?	Moheeraka.	Howrah.	Howrah.
35	0.39	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.85	5.85	6.57	6.03	3.83	1.31	4.63	Udharika.	Howrah.	Howrah.
36	0.04	0.11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.00	5.00	4.65	4.94	2.03	1.88	4.63	Bagur Island.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
37	0.37	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.04	5.04	3.02	4.34	2.03	1.30	1.72	Diamond Har-	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
38	0.07	0.12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.44	5.44	2.98	3.90	1.70	0.90	1.91	bour.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
39	0.07	0.19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.60	5.60	4.23	4.80	3.04	1.21	1.57	Canning Town.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
40	0.44	0.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.69	5.69	3.23	4.65	2.70	2.78	1.86	Alipore (Obay.)	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
41	0.80	0.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.92	5.92	3.02	4.80	1.95	0.45	1.67	Barrackpore.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
42	0.06	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.35	5.35	3.70	4.22	1.55	1.46	2.01	Dum-Dum.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
43	0.06	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.08	5.08	3.03	4.19	1.20	1.50	1.44	Rasrhat.	24-Parganas.	24-Parganas.
44	0.23	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.73	4.73	3.11	4.01	1.64	2.48	1.63	Krishnagar.	Nadia.	Nadia.
45	0.11	0.04	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.58	5.58	3.13	4.40	1.73	1.66	1.58	Chandang.	Nadia.	Nadia.
46	0.63	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.70	4.70	4.13	3.60	1.03	2.15	1.87	Meherpur.	Nadia.	Nadia.
47	0.74	0.24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.43	5.43	3.20	3.83	1.66	2.25	1.25	Kushtia.	Nadia.	Nadia.
48	0.10	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.51	5.51	3.03	4.19	1.73	1.88	1.31	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
49	0.15	0.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.13	5.13	4.47	4.20	2.12	2.35	1.26	Berhampore.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
50	0.03	0.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.13	4.13	3.74	3.27	1.92	1.82	1.30	Lalbah.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
51	0.33	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	5.80	4.01	5.30	5.60	1.68	Azimganj.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
52	0.33	0.31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.85	Jangipar.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
53	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Leigola.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
54	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Akriganj.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
55	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Patkubari.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
56	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Dumkal.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
57	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Nurai.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
58	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Jessore.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
59	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Jhenidah.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
60	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Mugura.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
61	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Bangson.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
62	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Satohira.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
63	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Hagerhat.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
64	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Khulna.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
65	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Katiganj.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
66	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Nakipur.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
67	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Dumuria.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
68	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Rampal.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
69	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Kalaroa.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
70	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Paigacha.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
71	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Mollahat.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
72	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Morrellganj.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
73	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Bonla.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
74	0.08	0.08	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Nator.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.
75	0.08	0.08	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Naugao.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.	
76	0.08	0.08	4.90	4.90	2.62	3.27	1.90	2.12	1.68	Lalpur.	Murshidabad.	Murshidabad.	

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Bengal in October 1899—continued.

2	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	Number of rainy days.	Average number of rainy days.	Total rainfall for the month.	Average rainfall for the month.	Highest rainfall during the month.	Total rainfall from 1881 to 1890 to 31st October 1892.	Average rainfall from 1881 to 31st October.	Station.	District.	Division.	Meteorological Division.
...	0.03	1.20	0.58	7	5.83	5.07	5.28	1.26	2.90	8.16	Munshiganj ...	Dacca.	Dacca.	Dacca.
...	0.04	1.11	0.00	...	...	6	6.19	4.91	4.92	1.69	2.68	1.55	Dacca			
...	0.33	1.51	0.04	...	...	4	5.42	4.37	3.90	1.21	2.55	2.23	Nariyanganj.			
...	1.01	...	...	...	4	5.31	2.22	3.00	2.25	4.12	1.42	Munshiganj.			
...	1.04	0.04	...	...	4	5.10	0.68	4.91	1.00	1.79	1.67	Jaydebpur.			
...	1.35	0.02	...	...	4	4.81	5.96	4.48	1.62	3.61	1.65	Kishoreganj ...			
...	0.30	1.60	0.18	...	...	4	6.77	3.03	5.02	2.11	3.50	1.81	Atia (Tangail).			
...	1.16	...	...	...	4	4.62	7.16	6.06	1.00	4.78	3.08	Mymensingh.			
...	0.08	1.50	0.10	...	...	8	5.46	0.60	6.18	1.73	4.82	2.36	Jamalpur.			
...	0.25	...	...	...	8	8.73	...	3.60	0.50	...	1.43	Netrokona.			
...	1.00	1.20	0.50	...	...	8	4.70	8.80	0.00	3.90	7.00	1.44	Shubarkhali.			
...	0.20	2.00	0.22	...	...	8	7.17	...	2.00	...	3.77	1.44	Dargapur.			
...	1.23	0.77	...	...	3	3.73	8.83	4.56	2.20	...	...	Sherepur Town			
...	0.45	1.21	0.30	...	...	7	5.15	...	...	2.13	3.58	1.10	Diwananj.			
...	0.40	2.40	...	...	6	5.88	7.10	4.50	2.40	4.40	1.75	Naldabari.			
...	2.14	1.24	...	...	6	5.23	0.37	4.02	2.48	4.48	1.81	Madaipur.			
...	0.30	2.20	...	...	6	5.36	5.67	4.20	2.20	4.10	1.66	Faridpur.			
...	0.30	2.34	1.13	0.34	...	7	7.50	2.04	6.25	11.33	1.94	2.16	Goatondo.			
...	0.17	1.50	5.04	...	...	6	6.27	10.71	5.87	5.06	9.90	2.40	Patuakhali ...			
...	0.48	1.25	5.04	...	...	6	6.23	12.37	6.01	5.94	10.40	2.60	Pirojpur.			
...	0.21	0.53	2.77	0.73	...	9	5.73	0.95	4.76	2.77	4.43	2.12	Barisal.			
...	0.30	1.84	5.70	0.44	...	7	6.79	14.34	6.07	5.70	12.00	2.02	Gauradli.			
...	1.31	3.16	8.64	1.00	...	12	...	12.37	...	5.64	14.94	2.01	Rhoia.			
...	1.60	2.35	10.50	0.45	...	10	6.14	2.07	7.04	10.50	21.52	2.01	Daulatkhan.			
...	6.00	1.20	...	...	4	5.54	0.05	5.05	0.06	7.20	2.23	Barisal.			
...	0.11	1.45	1.10	0.31	...	6	5.83	0.17	6.20	2.82	5.80	2.18	Hill Tippera.			
...	0.15	3.02	0.43	9	6.59	8.25	6.13	3.06	7.12	2.18	Tippera.			
...	0.01	0.81	0.67	6	5.85	5.11	4.94	1.70	3.31	2.08	Chandpur.			
...	Chittagong.	Chittagong.
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Bengal in October 1899—concluded.

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**SUMMARY OF THE METEOROLOGICAL AND RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN IN BENGAL, AND OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN IN ASSAM, FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 1899.**

WEATHER during the greater part of October was of the kind usual at the end of the monsoon season with pressure above the normal and northerly winds fairly frequent and continuous, especially in the eastern districts. Temperature differed but little from the normal, and the sky was generally cloudless or lightly clouded with an almost entire absence of rainfall, the only exception being fairly numerous light showers in North Bengal. In the western districts exceptionally dry weather prevailed, so that over a wide area, including Chota Nagpur and the greater part of Bihar, the rainfall for the month is largely below the normal. On an average for these two divisions only 34 per cent. of the fall usual in October was received.

There were two occasions of disturbed weather which continued for about three days each time. The first was in the middle of the month, the second towards the end. On both occasions the disturbance was due to a depression which began in the south of the Bay, and moving, as has been almost invariably the case, during the present monsoon season, in a north-easterly direction, passed over Southern and Eastern Bengal. Cloudy rainy weather obtained over a great part of the province, and heavy rain fell over considerable tracts of country, chiefly in Orissa, East Bengal, and Arakan.

The first of these depressions appeared off the coast of the Circars on the 14th, and moving almost parallel to the coast line was in the north-west angle of the Bay on the morning of the 15th, and in East Bengal on the 16th, after which it rapidly filled up.

The second began about a week later in the extreme south-west of the Bay, where it caused squally weather and in places very heavy rainfall for two or three days. On two consecutive days Negapatam reported 11 inches each day, and the total fall at that station due to the disturbance was about 25 inches. The depression moved slowly northwards, and appears, when near the centre of the Bay to have become diffused and broken up into several smaller depressions, one of which approached the Bengal Coast on the 27th and was over East Bengal on the 28th. A second, two or three days later, crossed the coast of the Circars as a disturbance of small extent and of less than average severity.

During the week following the 22nd weather was disturbed over a wide area, and that it was squally or stormy over the Bay was shown by the strong winds at Diamond Island, where velocities of close on 20 miles an hour continued from the 26th to the 30th.

The squally weather was not marked in the north of the Bay, but more or less heavy rain fell over the greater part of the province, and the heavy falls continued between Chittagong and Akyab for two or three days.

In both of these storms the most marked feature was the absence of stormy weather in the north of the Bay and the very heavy rainfall which was irregularly distributed with regard to the area immediately affected by the depression—a feature which it may be remembered was noticeable in the case of the previous disturbance which caused the heavy rainfall in the Darjeeling Hills towards the end of September.

In consequence of the continued tendency for the cyclonic disturbances to move towards the north or north-east, the distribution of rainfall has been more irregular than usual in October. Over a great part of Chota Nagpur less than 1 inch fell, and the average for the whole division was 1 inch as compared with the normal fall of 2.94 inches. Over a great part of the west of Bihar falls were less than half an inch, and only a few stations in any part of the division received more than 1 inch. These were mostly in the Hajipur and Tajpur districts, where heavy falls of more than 2 inches were almost general on the 28th. The average fall for the whole of Bihar for the month was slightly under 1 inch and about one-third of the normal fall.

Towards the south-east amounts increased considerably, especially in East Bengal, in the southern part of which they varied from 10 to more than 25 inches. Patuakhali in Backergunge received 22 inches, Bauphal 26, Noakhali 19, Cox's Bazar 27, Chittagong 24, Kutubdia 28, Satkania 21, and Fenesa 24. In the north-east also heavy rain fell, the heaviest being 19 inches at Baxa and 14 inches at Bhagatpur.

At the beginning of the month the pressure distribution was still of the south-west monsoon type with readings highest in the south-east of the Bay and lowest in the west of Bihar, the excess being greater over the Bay than at inland stations. Winds were light and variable and temperature differed by only small amounts from the normal. A rise of pressure which had begun on the 1st continued for some days, and by the 3rd a reversal of the gradient resulted with highest pressure in Assam and lowest in Madras. This arrangement was modified by a brisk fall on the 5th, but it was for a short time only, as readings were again highest in Assam on the 7th. From that date onwards the distribution underwent small changes, except during the two periods of unsettled weather. At times pressure was low in the west of Bihar, and winds were not unfrequently southerly or south-easterly in the western and central districts. Owing to the same cause winds were more variable than usual in North Bengal, and with the change of winds occasional light showers fell; but generally throughout the first-half of the month fine settled weather with variable or light variable winds prevailed, with temperature at times about 2° above the normal.

On the 13th pressure began to fall over the south of the Bay, and winds which were increasing in strength became more regularly cyclonic at the coast stations. On the following day a shallow depression of small extent was near Vizagapatam, at which pressure had fallen .18 inch, but the greatest defect was only .07 inch, and wind velocity was above 20

miles an hour at that station only. The depression moved rapidly north-eastward without intensifying and having little influence on the general atmospheric conditions, except that very heavy rain fell in the coast districts. Between the 14th and 15th at 8 A.M. Cuttack received 11 inches, and Puri, False Point, Balasore, and Saugor Island about 5. The fall of pressure in the north-west of the Bay was $\cdot 16$ inch, but the difference from the normal was still only about $\cdot 1$ inch. On the 16th the depression was in East Bengal, and general rain had fallen in Bengal Proper, but none of the falls were heavy, except at Noakhali, which received 8 inches. The next heaviest fall was 3 inches at Barisal. With the filling up of the depression rainfall ceased almost immediately, very little being reported on the 17th.

While weather was disturbed, very low day temperatures were recorded owing to the heavy cloud and general rainfall. The mean defect on the 16th varied from 2° in Bihar to 11° in the central districts, and was very little under 10° at any of the stations in Bengal Proper.

From the 17th cool weather conditions obtained for some days. Pressure was highest in the north of the province and above 30 inches; and it steadily diminished towards the south of the Bay with general light northerly winds.

The second disturbance began in the south-west of the Bay on the 22nd, and at 8 A.M. on the morning of the 23rd was causing unsettled weather with squalls of some force in that area, the station most affected being Negapatam. As the depression moved northwards and broke up before reaching the coast, the land observations give little or no information regarding its development during the earlier days of its existence—between the 22nd and 26th. The main feature while it was in the neighbourhood of the Madras coast was the heavy rainfall, especially at Negapatam, which received about 25 inches; and it is possible that this remained the most important feature throughout its movement northwards. But the strong winds at Diamond Island between the 26th and 30th show that squally or stormy weather probably prevailed for some days in the south and south-east of the Bay.

Only a small shallow depression reached the north of the Bay, and crossed the coast between Saugor Island and Chittagong on the 27th, but the weather in Bengal was disturbed over a much wider area than is usual with a depression of such depth and extent, rainfall being reported in greater or less quantity from all stations, except a few in Chota Nagpur. The heaviest falls occurred in the extreme south-east of the province on the 28th, Barisal receiving 6, Noakhali 5, and Chittagong 4; and general rainfall moderate to heavy in amount continued for some time in Arakan and Assam. The most notable circumstance was the continuous rainfall at Chittagong, which received 1.28 inches on the 27th, 2.83 on the 28th, 5.53 on the 29th, and 4.62 on the 30th, a total of more than 14 inches. A second noteworthy circumstance was the general and in places heavy rainfall in Bihar, where there is usually dry cloudless weather when depressions move in a north-easterly direction from the Bay.

After the shallow depression filled up on the 28th, weather recovered more slowly than is usual in similar cases at the end of October, when the transition period between cyclonic and fine cool weather is very short. The sky remained cloudy, and, as already noted, heavy rainfall continued in the east, but by the end of the month rainfall had entirely ceased, and northerly winds with low temperature were becoming general.

Pressure was generally above the normal during the early part of the month; and as both the depressions of the month were shallow, there was no occasion of very low pressure. In consequence the average pressure for the month is above the normal by considerable amounts. Excess varies from $\cdot 06$ inch in the south of Assam and the adjacent part of East Bengal to $\cdot 04$ inch in the west of Bihar. The greatest defect was $\cdot 15$ inch on the 16th, when the first depression was over East Bengal.

Temperature.—As cloudy weather was more frequent and continuous during the latter half of the month in Bengal Proper than in the western districts, there is a considerable difference in maximum temperature in the west as compared with the east of the province. In the west of Bihar and Chota Nagpur, that is, in the area of deficient rainfall, there was an average excess in day temperatures of about 8° , and at some stations of nearly 4° . In the central districts maximum temperature was about normal, and in the east there was defect of 1° to 2° .

Minimum temperature shows a reverse arrangement, there being a small excess in the east and defect of 1° to 2° in the west.

The mean temperature for the month is in consequence very nearly normal, only a few stations showing a difference of more than 1° .

Rainfall.—With the exception of a few light scattered showers, chiefly in North Bengal, no rain fell during the month, except at the times of disturbed weather, on the 15th and 16th and on the 27th and 28th. On these dates it was general over a great part of the province, but the falls were light, except in the eastern districts and Orissa, more particularly in East Bengal and the extreme north-east of North Bengal, where they were considerably in excess of the normal.

On an average for the larger divisions of the province, Bihar and Chota Nagpur received only 34 per cent. of the normal fall of about 3 inches, North Bengal 63 per cent., and South-West Bengal 90 per cent. In Orissa the average fall was 47 per cent. in excess and in East Bengal 94 per cent.

The following table gives a comparison between the actual monthly and total rainfall and the normal rainfall of the province up to the end of October in the same form as has been employed in the previous monthly abstracts of the present year. The figures represent

the ratio of the rainfall of each month of the present year to the normal rainfall expressed as a percentage. The table thus gives a condensed summary of the rainfall data of the year for each meteorological division. The first ten columns give the percentage amount of rainfall received in each month, and the last column the percentage rainfall of the whole period from the 1st of January to the end of October:—

METEOROLOGICAL DIVISIONS.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	Actual rainfall of first ten months of 1899 expressed as a percentage of the normal fall for the period.
South-West Bengal ...	230	82	17	185	116	122	154	85	92	90	111
North Bengal	270	40	112	93	85	127	123	138	119	63	116
East "	300	169	51	153	137	104	125	114	116	194	124
Bihar	224	56	17	288	101	143	167	127	102	34	130
Orissa	49	88	10	357	144	93	99	81	54	147	95
Chota Nagpur	164	24	Nil	355	85	154	110	54	57	34	87

The following table gives full data for the comparison of the actual and normal rainfall of the month of October in all districts of the Province. The first column gives the average district rainfall as determined from the rainfall observations of the past 26 years; the second column gives the actual district rainfall as determined from the actual weighted rainfall of the month at the reporting stations in the district; the third column expresses the ratio of the actual district rainfall to the normal as a percentage; and the fourth the same information in a slightly different form:—

Percentage Table for October 1899.

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	Normal district rainfall for October.	Actual district rainfall for October 1899.	Percentage of actual to normal rainfall.	Percentage, excess (+), defect (—).
South-West Bengal	Burdwan	8.53	2.94	83	— 17
	Birbhum	3.13	3.34	95	+ 5
	Bankura	3.24	3.48	108	+ 8
	Midnapore	4.63	3.94	85	— 15
	Hooghly	4.08	2.99	73	— 27
	Howrah	3.66	3.61	99	— 1
	24 Parganas	4.79	4.05	85	— 15
	Calcutta	4.99	3.02	69	— 31
	Nadia	4.16	3.09	74	— 26
	Murshidabad	3.74	3.54	95	— 5
	Jessore	4.41	3.35	76	— 24
	Khulna	4.94	5.12	104	+ 4
	Rajshahi	3.79	3.16	83	— 17
	Dinajpur	4.55	1.34	29	— 71
North Bengal	Jalpaiguri	4.83	2.60	54	— 46
	Darjeeling	4.72			
	Cooch Behar	5.54	2.26	41	— 69
	Rangpur	4.88	2.67	55	— 45
	Bogra	3.89	4.80	123	+ 23
	Pabna	4.14	3.66	88	— 12
	Dacca	4.26	4.14	97	— 3
	Mymensingh	5.30	5.97	113	+ 13
	Faridpur	4.32	6.50	150	+ 50
	Backergunge	5.92	15.50	262	+ 162
East Bengal	Tippera	5.10			
	Noakhali	7.38	16.69	226	+ 126
	Chittagong	6.85	25.05	366	+ 266
	Chittagong Hills Tracts	6.54	13.67	209	+ 109
	Patna	2.84	1.44	51	— 49
	Gaya	2.42	0.68	22	— 78
	Shahabad	2.98	0.86	29	— 71
	Saran	3.46	0.46	19	— 87
	Champaran	3.46	0.28	8	— 92
	Muzaffarpur	2.75	1.68	61	— 39
Bihar	Darbhanga	2.27	2.41	106	+ 6
	Monghyr	2.37	0.65	27	— 73
	Bhagalpur	2.79	0.59	21	— 79
	Purnea	3.29	0.08	2	— 98
	Malda	4.18	2.00	48	— 62
	Sonthal Parganas	3.85	1.10	29	— 71
	Cuttack	5.49	9.23	168	+ 68
	Balasore	5.51	7.04	128	+ 28
	Puri	7.37	9.46	128	+ 28
	Hazaribagh	3.37	0.31	9	— 91
Chota Nagpur	Ranchi	2.58	0.07	3	— 97
	Palamau	2.64			
	Manbhum	2.72	0.93	34	— 66
	Singbhum	2.97	2.68	90	— 10

SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 15, 1899. 2019

The following table gives the summary of the temperature and rainfall data of each of the seven meteorological divisions of the Province for the month of October 1899:—








METEOROLOGICAL DIVISIONS.	TEMPERATURE						RAINFALL.							
	Highest observed during month.	Lowest observed during month.	Averages for month.			Average mean of month above or below normal mean of month.	Of month.			Rainy days.			Since 16th Oct. 1899.	
			Of highest of each day.	Of lowest of each day.	Of mean for each day.		Average.	Normal average.	Variation.	Average number in month.	Normal average number in month.	Variation.	Average.	Normal average.
South-West Bengal	95.2	64.2	87.9	73.1	80.5	-0.6	8.81	4.00	-0.89	3.30	5.00	-1.60	1.63	1.63
North Bengal	92.3	59.8	86.3	72.3	79.3	0	2.69	4.22	-1.50	3.06	4.30	-0.64	1.90	1.30
East	92.3	68.5	80.5	75.7	80.1	-0.5	10.57	5.45	+5.13	7.44	5.83	+1.63	0.39	2.22
Bihar	97.4	57.9	89.1	70.8	79.9	+0.4	0.97	2.84	-1.87	1.07	2.96	-1.89	0.90	0.92
Orissa	96.7	68.3	82.7	74.5	81.6	0	8.29	5.85	+2.74	3.25	6.00	-3.44	0.60	2.71
Chota Nagpur*	95.4	68.7	87.5	66.7	77.1	+1.0	1.00	2.94	-1.94	1.29	2.94	-2.55	0.26	1.06
Assam	83.0	63.4	84.7	71.6	78.2	-1.1								

* Daltonganj and Purulia not included.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL,
The 14th November 1899.

C. LITTLE,
Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 5th to 11th November 1899.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.						Inches.		%			Inches.	
Nov.	5th	140.6	9.3	29.965	72.8	84.1	19.1	65.0	66.2	0.557	62.0	72	N by W and calm	69	Nil	Chiefly clear, 
"	6th	140.2	8.4	.941	71.8	83.6	20.8	62.8	65.8	.556	62.0	74	NNW and calm ...	53	"	Chiefly clear, 
"	7th	134.5	9.3	.917	71.5	84.2	22.0	62.2	65.8	.545	61.4	74	N and calm ...	53	"	Clear, 
"	8th	135.4	9.1	.909	71.1	84.0	21.8	62.2	65.4	.552	61.8	75	NW by N and N by W.	60	"	Chiefly clear, 
"	9th	138.4	9.0	.892	70.4	82.6	21.6	61.0	64.9	.539	61.0	75	N by W and NNW	78	"	Clear, 
"	10th	137.0	9.1	.914	70.3	83.1	22.3	60.8	64.3	.525	60.3	74	NNW and calm ...	51	"	Clear, 
"	11th	138.8	7.9	.948	70.1	83.2	23.0	60.2	64.1	.521	60.1	74	NNW and calm ...	65	"	Clear, 

The mean pressure of the seven days ...

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

Inches.
29.927

The total number of hours of bright sunshine ...

The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine ...

Hours.
62.1
77.9

The mean temperature of the seven days ...

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

71.1

The extreme variation of temperature ...

The maximum temperature ...

77.1
24.0
84.2

The highest velocity of the wind in one hour ...

Miles.
10

The mean relative humidity ...

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

74

The total fall of rain from 5th to 11th November 1899 ...

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

Inches.
Nil

The total fall from 1st January to 11th November 1899 ...

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

0.39
71.95

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beekley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

, dew; , fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Calcutta, the 13th November 1899.

G. W. KUHLER,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Districts.	Population under registration.	CHOLERA.										ENTERIC AND DIARRHOEA.		INJURY.		OTHER CAUSES.		TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.		AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.		REMARKS.	
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population.		
Burdwan	1,801,880	3,551	30.24	15	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	76	17.88	2,077	17.88	2,077	17.88	2,077	17.88	2,077	17.88	21	22
Birbhum	788,254	2,163	32.28	39	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	23	16.32	1,083	16.32	1,083	16.32	1,083	16.32	1,083	16.32	20	20
Bankura	1,099,668	4,484	38.62	10	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	23	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	19	19
Midnapore	2,631,510	7,211	32.98	288	108	108	108	108	108	108	108	100	13.40	3,192	13.40	3,192	13.40	3,192	13.40	3,192	13.40	18	18
Hoochly, including Berhampore.	1,654,266	2,109	24.56	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	173	21.56	1,146	21.56	1,146	21.56	1,146	21.56	1,146	21.56	17	17
Howrah	765,683	1,827	30.24	34	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	368	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	16	16
24-Parganas	1,862,683	4,348	27.48	80	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	368	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	1,188	18.00	15	15
Nadia	681,668	931	17.16	10	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	23	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	14	14
Malda	1,644,168	6,230	45.56	26	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	23	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	1,219	14.40	13	13
Murshidabad	1,564,946	4,681	44.04	306	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	5	4.88	4,884	48.84	4,884	48.84	4,884	48.84	4,884	48.84	12	12
Jessore	1,177,682	3,556	30.24	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	11	11
Khulna	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	10	10
Dinajpur	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	9	9
Jalpaiguri	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	8	8
Darjeeling	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	7	7
Bangpur	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	6	6
Bogra	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	5	5
Pabna	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	4	4
Dacca	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	3	3
Myerensingh	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2	2
Faridpur	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	1	1
Backergunge	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	25	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	2,588	11.88	0	0
Chittagong	1,435,460	3,043	26.44	137	120	120	120	120															

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 5th to 11th November 1899.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETRY.				WIND.		Rain.	WEATHER.
					Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Prevailing direction.	Miles recorded.		
1899.				Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%			Inches.	
Nov.	5th	140.6	9.3	29.965	72.8	84.1	19.1	65.0	66.2	0.557	62.0	72	N by W and calm	69	Nil	Chiefly clear, Δ .
"	6th	140.2	8.4	29.941	71.8	83.6	20.8	62.8	65.8	.556	62.0	74	NNW and calm ...	53	"	Chiefly clear, Δ .
"	7th	134.5	9.3	29.917	71.5	84.2	22.0	62.2	65.3	.545	61.4	74	N and calm ...	53	"	Clear, Δ .
"	8th	135.4	9.1	29.909	71.1	84.0	21.8	62.2	65.4	.552	61.8	75	NW by N and N by W.	60	"	Chiefly clear, Δ .
"	9th	138.4	9.0	29.892	70.4	82.6	21.6	61.0	64.9	.539	61.0	75	N by W and NNW	78	"	Clear, Δ .
"	10th	137.0	9.1	29.914	70.3	83.1	22.3	60.8	64.3	.525	60.3	74	NNW and calm ...	51	"	Clear, Δ .
"	11th	138.8	7.9	29.948	70.1	83.2	23.0	60.2	64.1	.521	60.1	74	NNW and calm ...	65	"	Clear, Δ .

The mean pressure of the seven days ...

The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

Inches.
29.927

The total number of hours of bright sunshine ...

The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine ...

Hours.
62.1
77.9

The mean temperature of the seven days ...

The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

71.1

The extreme variation of temperature ...

The maximum temperature ...

77.1
24.0
84.2

The highest velocity of the wind in one hour ...

Miles.
10

The mean relative humidity ...

The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

74

The total fall of rain from 5th to 11th November 1899 ...

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

Inches.
Nil

The total fall from 1st January to 11th November 1899 ...

The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, Surveyor-General's Office ...

0.39
71.95

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard, Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

Δ , dew; \equiv , fog.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Calcutta, the 13th November 1899.

G. W. KÜCHLER,

For Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

Divisions.	Districts.	Population under registration.	CHOLERA.										FEVER.										DYSENTERY AND DIARRHOEA.										INSUR.										OTHER CAUSES.										TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.										ANNUAL INCREASE OF POPULATION IN PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.										REMARKS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70		71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Burdwan	Burdwan	1,201,880	3,351	20,84	13	19	19	2,077	17,68	...	76</

Vital Statistics of Towns in Bengal with a population of 20,000 and over during the month of September 1899.

Districts.	Towns.	Population under registra- tion.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.										AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTH OF PRE- VIOUS FIVE YEARS.	REMARKS.					
			Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	CHOLERA.		SMALL-POX.		FEVER.		DIARRHEA AND DYSENTERY.		INJURY.				OTHER CAUSES.		TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.		
					Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.			Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	Number Registered.	Ratio per 1,000 per annum.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bardhaman	1. Bardhaman	34,577	61	21.72	31	7.80	...	...	97	29.80	14	4.00	...	...	15	5.16	86	29.88	57	20.94	...
Midnapore	2. Midnapore	32,264	66	21.92	...	...	...	...	108	33.40	15	5.16	...	...	16	5.28	122	45.36	53	20.14	...
Hooghly	3. Hooghly and Chinsura	33,093	67	24.24	6	2.64	...	...	135	39.24	16	5.28	...	...	17	5.28	132	45.36	109	39.48	...
Howrah	4. Howrah	35,983	73	25.78	6	...	...	...	200	57.56	68	6.00	...	...	18	6.28	193	54.00	140	46.68	...
	5. Cossimbazar-Chitpur	116,098	323	33.12	...	...	...	...	295	27.56	3	1.08	...	...	19	14.88	445	45.72	333	33.94	...
	6. Cossimbazar	31,423	27	14.04	...	...	...	...	19	7.32	3	1.08	...	...	20	3.28	33	19.60	30	11.84	...
	7. Manikela	34,868	60	21.00	2	...	...	...	63	21.92	3	1.08	...	...	21	1.08	112	39.12	72	25.90	...
	8. Barnagore	32,278	60	21.00	...	...	...	...	63	21.92	3	1.08	...	...	22	1.08	112	39.12	72	25.90	...
	9. South Suburban	41,713	79	29.68	...	...	...	...	41	17.52	1	3.6	...	...	23	4.20	97	39.12	117	33.60	...
	10. Garden Reach	27,924	51	21.84	...	...	...	...	41	17.52	1	3.6	...	...	24	1.32	86	31.52	63	20.76	...
	11. South Barrackpore, including Tintagah Municipality.	26,647	21	6.96	...	...	...	...	73	24.48	6	1.92	...	...	25	5.64	117	47.16	78	31.44	...
Calcutta	12. Calcutta	20,724	63	25.32	30	19.00	...	...	68	23.40	9	3.60	...	...	26	1.11	1,747	30.72	1,061	20.59	...
Nadia	13. Nadia	61,590	94	17.16	10	...	...	...	380	6.24	331	5.96	...	...	27	1.32	41	19.20	47	22.08	...
Murshidabad	14. Murshidabad	35,500	73	26.04	...	...	...	...	88	27.36	...	...	...	...	28	1.08	116	45.72	66	22.32	...
Raichak	15. Raichak	30,437	52	16.32	...	...	...	...	103	32.68	4	3.04	...	...	29	...	141	71.88	87	29.04	...
Pabna	16. Pabna	32,515	42	22.68	...	...	...	...	75	29.68	3	1.68	...	...	30	...	131	73.32	47	26.68	...
Dacca	17. Dacca	31,407	43	22.08	...	...	...	...	106	32.68	...	...	...	...	31	...	61	31.44	44	22.68	...
Chittagong	18. Chittagong	32,523	194	26.20	...	...	...	...	106	32.68	...	...	...	...	32	...	338	47.64	243	29.40	...
	19. Chittagong	165,192	16	7.92	...	...	...	...	31	10.44	...	...	...	...	33	...	53	19.36	31	18.36	...
Patna	20. Patna	47,723	228	45.20	...	...	...	...	219	15.94	...	...	...	...	34	...	197	44.40	683	40.80	...
	21. Bihar	44,419	153	41.04	...	...	...	...	73	19.68	...	...	...	...	35	...	41	20.40	170	48.27	...
Gaya	22. Gaya	80,853	296	44.16	...	...	...	...	53	27.56	...	...	...	...	36	...	149	40.30	134	33.48	...
Shahabad	23. Shahabad	46,906	116	29.64	...	...	...	...	63	24.76	...	...	...	...	37	...	88	39.44	43	26.68	...
	24. Arrah	22,713	108	47.00	...	...	...	...	52	21.72	...	...	...	...	38	...	113	59.64	144	36.84	...
Saran	25. Saran	27,353	280	57.56	...	...	...	...	104	21.72	...	...	...	...	39	...	164	69.00	164	45.36	...
Champanan	26. Champanan	23,780	92	48.36	...	...	...	...	43	22.08	...	...	...	...	40	...	87	45.72	98	31.60	...
Munshargar	27. Munshargar	49,192	147	36.76	...	...	...	...	40	9.72	...	...	...	...	41	...	105	33.60	131	31.28	...
	28. Hajpur	31,497	93	31.36	...	...	...	...	27	15.00	...	...	...	...	42	...	176	39.60	71	39.60	...
Darbhanga	29. Darbhanga	73,561	216	35.16	...	...	...	...	81	13.20	...	...	...	...	43	...	161	39.16	200	32.52	...
Monghyr	30. Monghyr	69,077	265	43.52	...	...	...	...	53	11.04	...	...	...	...	44	...	137	31.40	218	35.32	...
Biagarpur	31. Biagarpur	69,106	273	47.40	...	...	...	...	102	17.64	...	...	...	...	45	...	132	33.48	106	26.32	...
Cuttack	32. Cuttack	47,186	119	30.24	...	...	...	...	38	9.00	...	...	...	...	46	...	46	37.92	43	26.32	...
Balasore	33. Balasore	20,778	34	36.94	...	...	...	...	10	4.56	...	...	...	...	47	...	46	37.92	43	26.32	...
Puri	34. Puri	20,778	38	36.94	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	46	37.92	43	26.32	...
Bauchi	35. Bauchi	20,778	67	30.48	...	...	...	...	21	12.36	...	...	...	...	49	...	41	37.92	52	30.72	...
	Total of all towns with a population of 20,000 and over	1,374,167	8,538	29.26	887	3.00	11	7.04	1,996	15.79	739	3.84	137	7.2	2,474	19.96	9,943	36.60	9,915	39.76	...
	Average of correspond- ing month of previous five years	...	4,709	29.84	346	1.90	15	7.07	3,139	16.56	805	4.30	127	6.0	1,763	9.24	9,215	39.76	...	...	...
	Difference + or -	...	+ 829	+ 4.33	+ 141	+ 1.20	- 4	- 0.3	- 164	- 1.84	- 66	- 3.6	+ 10	+ 1.3	+ 711	+ 3.79	+ 729	+ 3.84	...	...	...

Supplementary Vital Statistics for August 1899, received too late for publication with the figures of that month on the 7th October 1899.

Divisions.	Districts.	Population under registration.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.												AVERAGE OF CORRESPONDING MONTHS OF PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS.			
			Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	CHOLERA.				SMALL-POX.		FEVER.		DYSENTERY AND DIARRHŒA.		INJURY.		OTHER CAUSES.		TOTAL OF ALL CAUSES.	
					Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.	Number registered.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Presidency ... Patna ...	Jessore	1,683,827	3,880	24.00	68	36	...	...	4,073	20.64	6	0.2	164	0.6	333	2.06	1,280	33.19	2,762	23.88
	Shahabad	2,060,679	9,618	55.99	709	4.08	...	...	5,948	34.56	38	.19	141	.72	1,766	10.80	8,583	30.04	7,078	44.64
	Total for the whole Province	71,060,617	334,016	39.64	5,792	.96	...	...	134,114	29.66	3,805	.60	5,868	.84	36,764	6.19	186,763	31.44	187,577	31.66
	Average of corresponding month of previous five years.	...	189,795	39.04	5,530	3.53	.19	...	133,341	29.33	6,178	.64	4,485	.72	29,646	4.98	187,577	31.66	...	...
	Difference + or -	...	+46,221	+7.60	-9,686	-1.66	+46	Equal.	+1,773	+4.94	-1,378	-.96	+1,053	+1.29	+7,314	+1.90	-623	-.19	...	...
District. Shahabad	Town.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Arrah	46,906	158	40.36	9	3.96	...	...	86	21.96	6	1.44	3	.48	27	6.24	139	33.24	209	53.40
	Saran	33,713	76	40.08	...	...	...	...	53	27.96	...	...	6	3.04	30	15.84	87	45.96	98	48.60
	Total of all towns with a population of 20,000 and over.	2,973,167	4,965	36.16	388	3.04	.19	...	2,808	15.94	773	3.86	104	.48	2,445	12.94	6,646	35.04	6,683	35.16
	Average of corresponding month of previous five years.	...	4,838	37.60	627	3.94	.09	...	3,218	16.92	879	4.66	117	.60	1,838	9.60	6,683	35.16	...	...
	Difference + or -	...	+627	+3.66	-239	-1.20	+9	+0.3	-310	-1.68	-107	-.66	-13	-.19	+683	+3.94	-37	-.19	...	...

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR BENGAL,
The 10th November 1899.
H. J. DYSON, Major, I.M.S., F.R.C.S.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, BENGAL.
IRRIGATION OPERATIONS FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1899-1900.
Areas leased for Irrigation up to end of September 1899.

CIRCLE.	DISTRICT.	Canal.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.										Rainfall, 1899-1900.		REMARKS.							
			Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Approximate area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Approximate area of land under irrigation up to the same date last year.	Season leased.					GRAND TOTAL.	During month.		Up to end of month.						
								Long-term leases.	Kharif.	Rabi.	Sugarcane.	Bhadol.					Hot-weather.	Total.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
OHISSA	Cuttack	Taldanda, 1st reach	1,342	815	353	17,853	17,766	14,016	3,957	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,957	17,953	345	47-46	9-77	45-63	Kelal.	
		Ditto, and "	668	281	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,186	32,711	1-40	5-25	20-55	Balla.	
		Machgaon	776	581	439	32,711	33,018	23,825	9,166	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9,166	32,711	1-63	6-75	44-38	Jacaisinpur.	
		Kendrapara	1,067	853	715	50,797	51,384	44,676	6,121	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,121	50,797	2-83	6-97	47-84	Kendrapara.	
		Gobri	373	60	60	3,605	3,732	3,517	178	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	178	3,695	5-80	6-94	47-20	Marbhaghai.	
		Do. Extension	845	55	45	3,458	3,650	3,458	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,458	5-77	43-62	7-45	58-13	Kendrapara.
		Patamundi	883	266	231	14,980	14,668	13,350	1,628	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,628	14,838	3-62	42-69	6-90	46-71	Ichapur.
		High Level, Range I	608	378	232	22,244	22,219	20,461	1,785	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,785	22,243	3-88	47-33	9-11	58-11	Nurlang.
		Ditto, do. II	727	15	14	3,666	2,908	2,998	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,998	.....	.....	14-49	59-69	Janapur.
		Jalpur Canal	700	167	146	9,900	10,339	9,013	194	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	2,090	4-23	No gauge.	13-70	48-75	Jalpur.
SOUTH-WEST BENGAL.	Balsore	High Level, Range III	727	383	383	29,394	29,319	28,456	194	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	2,090	4-23	39-57	13-70	48-75	Jalpur.	
		Total	.....	.....	.....	189,728	189,494	183,791	22,422	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	203	22,830	4-31	44-68	11-54	48-85	Akhoyapada.	
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	179,630	9,375	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	193	9,946	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Midnapore	1,411	400-00	305-85	60,185	30,320	62,464	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62,464	11-20	62-17	8-62	13-83	59 days discharging.
		Panchkura	525	5-26	6-46	1,496	1,744	6,507	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,607	13-17	70-87	6-70	48-31	5 "
		Tidal Reaches, Ranges I & II	.....	.....	.....	131	1,396	1,397	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,397	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Total	.....	.....	.....	61,817	33,469	70,368	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70,368	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69,378	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	69,378	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		Shahabad	4,342	8,883	533	17,898	15,096	12,754	6,128	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,999	2-23	45-45	11-41	45-87	.....
		SONS	Shahabad and Patna and Gaya.	Buxar	1,526	1,075	808	77,640	77,559	64,584	11,517	11,517	82,164	6-37	49-60	13-48	50-18
Arrah	2,060			1,773	1,186	148,127	149,792	119,792	21,604	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21,604	168,394	6-03	40-19	15-62	53-30	.....
Eastern Main	1,468			1,165	869	73,685	75,850	65,552	17,839	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17,839	93,432	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Patna	.....			.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	.....			.....	.....	316,464	324,663	254,600	57,013	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57,013	333,623	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....			.....	.....	.....	.....	290,532	94,985	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94,985	337,657	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Total	.....			.....	.....	568,009	546,086	483,769	79,435	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	79,435	590,640	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....			.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....			.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year	.....			.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

CALCUTTA.

There are no separate leases for sugarcane on the Son Canal. All leased fields of that crop now come under one of the other heads.

A. H. O. MACCARTHY.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT, —BENGAL.

Statement showing heights over mean sea-level and low-water in the Rivera Ganges, Bhagirathi, Jalangi, and Brahmaputra, for the month of September 1899.

RIVER GANGES.																							
		MIRAPUR.		BENARES.		BUXAR.		DINAPORE.		MONGHYR.		SAHIBGANJ.		RAMPUR BOALIA.		GOOLDANO.		BERHAMPORE.		RIVER JALANGI.		RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA.	
		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.		From Allahabad.	
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CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

*Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 11th of November 1899,
as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.*

NATURE OF CARGO.	WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 11TH NOVEMBER 1899.			WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, THE 12TH NOVEMBER 1898.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	1,006	1,68,885	2,650	743	1,15,825	1,796
Jute	306	1,09,075	1,805	420	1,78,825	2,894
Firewood	88	72,425	1,162	110	85,175	1,276
Other articles	798	1,78,385	2,484	723	1,76,725	2,428
Total	2,198	5,28,770	7,901	1,996	5,66,350	8,394

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

Abstract of Principal Commodities carried over the Eastern Bengal State Railway during the month of August 1899, as compared with the same month of the previous year.

STAPLES.	1899.		1898.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1899.	1898.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		
Coal and Coke carried for the Public and Foreign Railways	3,738	14,900	14,106	6,908	16,720	21,011		2,285
Cotton, raw	1	182	5	163	153	168		5
Cotton, manufactured—								
Twist and yarn, European	392		365		292	365		73
Ditto, Indian	241	78	313	239	314	542		228
Piece-goods, European	1,546	5	1,867	4	1,561	1,871		310
Ditto, Indian	13		20		19	29		7
Drugs and Chemicals—								
Intoxicating, other than opium	3	7	6	7	10	11		1
Non-intoxicating—								
Cinchona bark	11				11			
Others	63	5	70		68	70	11	
Dyes and Tans—								
Indigo								
Myrabolams								
Cutch	17		37		17	41		24
Turmeric	35	152	82	507	187	559		372
Alizarine and aniline dyes								
Al (Morinda Citrifolia)								
Others	4	8			4	8		4
Grain and pulse—								
Wheat	37	360	45	67	397	102	295	
Paddy	741	3,139	638	1,230	3,871	1,777	2,094	
Rice	1,980	6,729	2,945	2,023	7,695	4,968	2,727	
Jowar and bajra								
Gram and pulse	2,149	12,035	1,273	1,205	14,182	2,478	11,704	
Others	8	640	399	70	648	369	279	
Hides and skins—								
Hides of cattle—								
Dressed or tanned								
Raw	44	358	33	854	402	867		465
Skins of sheep, &c.—								
Dressed or tanned								
Raw	4	89	1	28	56	29	27	
Horns	4	3	5	3	6	8		
Hemp and other fibres								
Jute—								
Raw	425	65,878	67	35,140	66,303	35,236	31,067	
Gunny-bags and cloth	1,007	343	334	336	1,410	650	760	
Lac—								
Stick								
Shell		13		18	18	18		6
Leather, manufactured	13	6	25		19	23		6
Liquors—								
Ale and beer	33		35		33	35		2
Spirits of all kinds, including country spirits		3	4		3	4		1
Wines	79		74		79	74	5	
All other sorts, including toddy and fermented liquor, other than ale and beer.								
Metals—								
Copper, unwrought		8	51			31		31
Brass, ditto		12	1		11	13		2
Copper, wrought	8	76	170	79	180	240		60
Brass, do.	104	25	37	13	112	60	62	
Iron and steel	544	21	839	36	665	805		140
Others	337	7	450	9	364	459		95
Others	102	19	110	33	121	143		22
Oils—								
Kerosine	9,407	84	10,801	108	9,491	10,900		1,416
Castor	10		6		10	6	4	
Cocount	127		143		127	143		
Mustard and rape	101	7	178	6	198	184	14	14
Others	46	4	46		50	46	4	
Oilseeds—								
Linseed		878	7					
Rape and mustard		1,403	457	1,098	878	2,005		1,127
Til or jinjili	304			743	1,097	1,150	427	
Poppy		87		188	87	188		101
Earthnuts								
Castor		4						
Others		5						
Opium		58		38		90	4	
Paper and pasteboard	186	473	168	339	641	507	134	
Provisions—								
Ghee	30	9	70	1	108	71	37	
Dried fruits and nuts			2	19		21		
Others	720	397	1,000	283	1,117	1,283		166
Railway plant and rolling-stock carried for the Public and Foreign Railways—								
Locomotives, engines, and tenders and parts thereof.				235		235		235
Carriages and trucks and parts thereof		9	2	7	9	9		
Materials—								
Steel rails and fish-plates, sleepers, and keys of steel and cast-iron.	1,880	1			1,890		1,890	
Other sorts	732		374	22	732	896		164
Salt	860	14	45	7	861	53	811	
	4,347	55	4,534	49	4,302	4,803		501

2028 SUPPLEMENT TO THE CALCUTTA GAZETTE, NOVEMBER 15, 1899.

STAPLES.	1898.		1899.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1898.	1899.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Saltpetre, &c.—								
Saltpetre	4	9	4	9	4	9		5
Other saline substances								
Silk, raw—								
Foreign								
Indian	19	17	19	17	19	17	2	
Silk piece-goods—								
Foreign								
Indian								
Muga								
Endi								
Spices—								
Beetel-nuts	267	233	277	267	260	274		254
Pepper	26	23	46	78	33	49		11
Ginger								
Chillies	123	113	1	201	235	202	33	55
Cardamoms	90	24	128	6	24	6	16	
Others								
Lime and lime-stone	711	734	300	1,237	1,045	1,787		170
Sugar—								
Refined or crystallised, including sugar-candy.	460	733	460	733	460	733		273
Unrefined, viz., molasses and jagerry or gur, and other saccharine produce.	1,479	231	1,068	339	1,710	1,397	313	
Tea—								
Foreign								
Indian	4	4,576		7,220	4,580	7,220		2,640
Timber	181	46	127	100	229	136		7
Tobacco—								
Unmanufactured	146	2,319	139	2,534	2,965	2,073	292	
Manufactured—								
Cigars								
Other sorts			12			12		12
Wool, raw								
Wool, manufactured—								
Carpets and rugs								
Piece-goods, European								
Ditto, Indian	1	8			1	3		2
Other sorts								
All other articles of merchandise	5,086	2,100	4,833	2,285	7,748	7,120	628	
Total	41,636	1,19,533	50,523	67,770	1,60,171	1,18,302	53,642	11,773

CALCUTTA, the 1st November 1899.

A. HYDE WOLLASTON,
for Examiner of Accounts.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
all traffic for the week ...	(a) 289,947	Rs. A. P. (a) 3,37,987 12 0	Mds. s. (b) 43,37,189 30	Rs. A. P. (b) 10,12,813 10 0	Rs. A. P. 22,589 0 0	Rs. A. P. 13,78,490 0 0	97,358	181,180	278,538
per mile of railway ...	...	107 1 1	...	592 1 8	13 3 3	802 6 0	...	...	...
previous 16½ weeks of half-year ...	5,184,343*	52,49,231 1 0*	6,81,31,100 0†	1,24,83,159 7 0	3,55,420 0 0	1,80,02,810 9 0	1,531,514	2,619,513	4,151,027
Total for 17½ weeks ...	5,474,290	55,80,318 13 0	7,32,08,388 30	1,35,00,973 1 0	3,78,000 0 0	1,94,65,800 14 0	1,628,873	2,800,693	4,429,566
COMPARISON.									
all for corresponding week of previous year ...	289,668	3,16,564 14 6	33,76,331 0	7,01,120 15 0	20,357 1 8	10,32,043 15 2	88,013	150,433	238,446
per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	...	182 2 3	...	411 3 1	11 15 0	605 4 4	...	...	...
all for corresponding 17½ weeks of previous year ...	5,152,100‡	51,75,820 10 10	6,75,40,573 30	1,22,41,794 15 5	2,48,287 15 1	1,77,03,012 9 4	1,575,115	2,650,929	3,226,044

(a) The increase is in passenger traffic from all the districts on the line.

(b) The increase is chiefly in coal traffic from all the colliery stations, and in upward despatch of food-grains from almost all the principal stations throughout the line.

* Deducted number of passengers 6,318 and Rs. 8,182

† Added Mds. 4,41,552 and .. 27,490

‡ Deducted .. 2,076

§ Audited figures up to the week ended 9th September 1899.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 4th November 1899 on 1,710·53 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
all traffic for the week ...	278,382	Rs. A. P. (a) 3,61,549 12 0	Mds. s. (a) 47,56,846 0	Rs. A. P. (a) 9,94,276 3 0	Rs. A. P. 29,018 0 0	Rs. A. P. 13,81,837 13 0	96,740	185,230	2,82,970
per mile of railway ...	...	211 5 11	...	681 4 3	15 3 4	807 13 6	...	...	...
previous 17½ weeks of half-year ...	5,474,290	55,80,318 13 0	7,32,08,388 30	1,35,00,973 1 0	3,78,000 0 0	1,94,65,800 14 0	1,628,873	2,800,693	4,429,566
Total for 18½ weeks ...	5,752,672	59,47,868 9 0	7,80,25,234 30	1,44,95,248 4 0	4,04,022 0 0	2,08,47,138 13 0	1,727,618	2,985,933	4,713,550
COMPARISON.									
all for corresponding week of previous year ...	285,282	3,67,929 11 6	41,10,019 20	8,41,001 9 10	22,195 0 8	12,21,126 6 0	92,937	161,106	254,043
per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	...	209 6 10	...	493 1 2	12 15 9	714 7 9	...	...	...
all for corresponding 18½ weeks of previous year ...	5,437,352‡	55,33,759 6 4	7,16,50,508 30	1,39,82,406 9 3	3,70,403 15 9	1,89,87,038 15 4	1,668,042	2,812,035	4,480,077

(a) The increase is chiefly (1) in coal traffic, both upwards and downwards, from old Asansol, Jharia, and Giridih;

(2) in live-stock from Brace Bridge, Hali; and (3) in food-grains from almost all the principal stations in loop.

Dinapore and Allahabad districts chiefly to Agra Junction and Delhi and stations on the B. B. and C. I. Railway.

TANKSSEUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th October 1899 on 22·23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	TOTAL.
all traffic for the week ...	20,624	Rs. A. P. 5,115 8 0	M. s. 18,886 30	Rs. A. P. 715 3 0	Rs. A. P. 9 0 0	Rs. A. P. 5,830 11 0	1,096	92	1,188
per mile of railway ...	...	230 1 10	...	32 2 9	0 6 6	262 11 1	...	...	...
previous 16½ weeks of half-year ...	200, 86*	69,623 3 0*	2,17,182 0†	6,997 15 0†	144 0 0	76,064 1 0	17,561‡	1,534§	19,095
Total for 17½ weeks ...	220,712	74,637 10 0	2,36,038 30	7,713 2 0	183 0 0	82,663 12 0	18,657	1,626	20,283
COMPARISON.									
all for corresponding week of previous year ...	22,604	5,400 1 0	9,178 30	351 1 0	6 3 0	5,817 4 0	874	73	947
per mile of railway correspond- ing week of previous year ...	...	245 9 10	...	15 12 8	0 4 5	261 10 11	...	...	...
all for corresponding 17½ weeks of previous year ...	220,610‡	74,918 9 11	1,58,975 20	5,628 0 0	118 6 6	80,565 0 5	19,148	1,620	20,768

* Added number of passengers 1,500 and Rs. 300

† Deducted number 5,978 and .. 87

‡ Audited figures up to the week ended 9th September 1899.

§ On account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 2nd and 9th September 1899.

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 22.23 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	(a) 19,500	(a) 4,045 5 0	18,730 30	835 6 0	10 0 0	5,490 9 0	1,088	100	1,188
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	208 15 6	.....	37 9 3	0 7 2	246 15 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 17½ weeks of half-year ...	329,712	74,637 10 0	2,36,083 30	7,713 2 0	153 0 0	68,603 12 0	18,657	1,615	20,272
Total for 18½ weeks ...	349,212	79,282 13 0	2,54,753 20	8,548 6 0	163 0 0	67,994 5 0	19,745	1,715	21,460
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	22,917	5,501 4 2	12,123 0	586 4 0	13 3 3	6,099 11 5	1,103	106	1,209
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	247 7 6	.....	24 6 8	0 8 9	274 6 3	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 18½ weeks of previous year ...	349,733	80,619 14 1	1,66,103 30	6,414 4 0	189 9 9	66,984 11 10	20,230	1,726	21,956

(a) The decrease is in passenger traffic from all stations on this line, chiefly to Howrah.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	18,083	17,889 13 0	86,423 30	12,871 10 0	66 0 0	30,937 6 0	7,125	3,365	10,490
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	110 4 3	.....	79 5 3	0 6 6	190 0 2	.....	.....	.....
For previous 17½ weeks of half-year ...	279,125*	2,66,768 14 0*	14,08,383 10*	1,94,025 8 0*	1,064 0 0*	4,62,673 6 0	114,065	54,485	1,71,470
Total for 17½ weeks ...	296,241	2,64,652 10 0	14,94,761 0	2,07,497 2 0	1,150 0 0	4,63,290 13 0	122,110	59,850	1,81,960
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	17,576†	17,908 14 10	90,218 0	10,773 3 0	67 9 2	28,784 11 1	7,463	3,583	10,996
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	110 6 3	.....	66 6 11	0 6 8	177 3 9	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 17½ weeks of previous year ...	2,96,230	2,64,614 0 4	10,76,023 20	1,67,591 12 7	2,066 8 6	4,53,272 5 5	124,008	54,169	1,78,867

* Deducted No. of passengers 601 and Rs. 1,375

† Added Mds. 2,737 and deducted " 180

Do. " 7

Audited figures up to the week ended 9th September 1899.

DELHI-UMBALLA-KALKA RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 4th November 1899 on 162.24 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	15,746	17,967 9 0	1,21,304 10	17,937 14 0	78 0 0	38,763 7 0	7,096	3,530	10,626
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	109 0 4	.....	110 9 0	0 7 9	239 1 1	.....	.....	.....
For previous 17½ weeks of half-year ...	295,241	2,34,652 10 0	14,94,761 0	2,07,497 2 0	1,150 0 0	4,63,290 13 0	122,110	59,850	181,960
Total for 18½ weeks ...	310,987	3,02,340 3 0	16,16,055 10	2,25,436 0 0	1,328 0 0	5,29,003 3 0	129,206	63,370	192,576
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	16,733	17,858 5 0	96,766 30	12,600 3 0	77 14 0	30,305 11 0	7,672	4,211	11,883
Or per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	108 3 7	.....	78 1 6	0 7 8	186 12 9	.....	.....	.....
Total for corresponding 18½ weeks of previous year ...	312,903	3,02,172 5 4	11,72,915 10	1,70,261 4 7	1,344 6 6	4,53,578 0 5	123,170	54,370	177,540

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 28th October 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	8,353	Rs. A. P. 4,028 10 0	Mds. c. 30,314 0	Rs. A. P. 3,307 6 0	Rs. A. P. 14 0 0	Rs. A. P. 6,436 10 0	1,945	261	2,206
per mile of railway ...	...	51 1 1	...	30 3 6	0 9 10	81 10 5	...	...	...
for previous 16½ weeks of half-year ...	142,858*	69,169 9 6*	4,30,540 20†	33,926 5 0†	256 0 0†	1,03,853 14 0	21,504	4,370½	25,874½
Total for 16½ weeks ...	151,206	73,195 8 0	4,50,854 20	36,325 5 0	270 0 0	1,04,790 8 0	23,440	4,651	28,100
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Added No. of passengers 608 and Rs. 690 }
 † Do. Mds. 31,093 and " 1,344 } on account of difference between the approximate and audited figures for the weeks ended 2nd
 ‡ Audited figures up to the week ended 9th September 1899.

SOUTH BEHAR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 4th November 1899 on 78·83 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	No. 7,037	Rs. A. P. 3,791 4 0	Mds. c. 35,053 20	Rs. A. P. 3,032 10 0	Rs. A. P. 15 0 0	Rs. A. P. 6,838 14 0	1,945	261	2,206
per mile of railway ...	...	48 1 6	...	38 7 6	0 3 1	86 12 1	...	...	...
for previous 16½ weeks of half-year ...	151,306	73,195 3 0	4,50,854 20	36,325 5 0	270 0 0	1,04,790 8 0	23,440	4,651	28,100
Total for 17½ weeks ...	158,343	76,986 7 0	4,85,908 0	39,357 15 0	285 0 0	1,14,629 0 0	25,394	4,932	30,326
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total for corresponding weeks of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(INCLUDING N. B., DACCA, K.-D., AND ASSAM-BIHAR SECTIONS.)

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 834 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week ...	167,220	Rs. A. P. 99,610 0 0	Mds. c. 10,91,380 0	Rs. A. P. 2,61,400 0 0	Rs. A. P. 13,720 0 0	Rs. A. P. 2,75,120 0 0	35,400	81,295	86,755
per mile of railway ...	201	118 0 0	1,309 0	315 0 0	1 0 0	432 0 0	...	...	...
for previous 17 weeks of half-year ...	3,361,661	18,63,668 0 0	1,62,20,799 0	37,06,104 0 0	3,96,265 0 0	56,66,207 0 0	614,693	726,862	1,340,645
Total for 18 weeks ...	3,528,881	19,64,476 0 0	1,63,12,178 0	40,57,504 0 0	3,10,015 0 0	60,31,997 0 0	619,153	778,247	1,427,400
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	194,009	97,971 0 0	12,30,761 0	2,61,469 0 0	12,948 0 0	2,63,363 0 0	34,614	60,193	85,007
per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	236	119 0 0	1,603 0	342 0 0	1 0 0	431 0 0	...	...	...
Total for corresponding date of previous year ...	3,335,490	14,72,070 0 0	1,70,48,101 0	36,08,079 0 0	3,26,983 0 0	54,08,239 0 0	617,700	707,933	1,325,703

* Excluding steamer earnings.
 † Audited up to 9th September 1899.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 86 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	21,800	6,070 0 0	68,040 0	7,430 0 0	200 0 0	15,700 0 0	2,378	2,632	5,210
Or per mile of railway ...	250	94 0 0	768 0	86 0 0	3 0 0	183 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 17 weeks of half-year ...	4,03,735	1,25,279 0 0	6,02,808 0	55,921 0 0	2,801 0 0	1,54,001 0 0	43,534	27,034	70,568
Total for 18 weeks ...	4,24,235	1,33,349 0 0	7,18,838 0	63,351 0 0	3,001 0 0	1,69,701 0 0	45,902	29,666	75,568
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	22,891	7,744 0 0	65,041 0	6,723 0 0	70 0 0	14,496 0 0	2,572	2,763	5,335
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	268	90 0 0	768 0	78 0 0	1 0 0	169 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	4,10,310	1,23,620 0 0	5,70,713 0	50,925 0 0	3,896 0 0	1,50,341 0 0	43,378	28,336	69,614

* Audited up to 9th September 1899.

MYMENSINGH-JAGANNATHGANJ RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 54 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings, including ferry.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,910	900 0 0	10,350 0	680 0 0	10 0 0	1,590 0 0	750	174	924
Or per mile of railway ...	72	17 0 0	190 0	13 0 0	...	30 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 17 weeks of half-year ...	61,530	13,876 0 0	78,597 0	4,360 0 0	105 0 0	16,341 0 0	9,384	12,373	21,656
Total for 18 weeks ...	65,430	14,776 0 0	88,947 0	5,040 0 0	115 0 0	17,931 0 0	10,134	12,446	22,580
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	1,543	404 0 0	6,179 0	323 0 0	...	727 0 0	200	256	456
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	47	13 0 0	197 0	10 0 0	...	23 0 0	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	1,543	404 0 0	10,323 0	518 0 0	...	928 0 0	206	1,846	1,652

* Audited up to 9th September 1899.

BRAHMAPUTRA-SULTANPUR RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 24.75 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	1,280	410 0 0	7,980 0	510 0 0	130 0 0	1,080 0 0	200	534	734
Or per mile of railway ...	52	17 0 0	322 0	31 0 0	5 0 0	43 0 0	...	...	...
For previous 17 weeks of half-year ...	24,909	7,563 0 0	1,24,322 0	7,610 0 0	308 0 0	16,641 0 0	2,847	11,015	14,062
Total for 18 weeks ...	26,249	7,973 0 0	1,32,302 0	8,120 0 0	308 0 0	17,001 0 0	2,847	11,536	15,383
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Includes ballast train-miles 574.

† Audited up to 9th September 1899.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 4th November 1899 on 33.18 miles open.

• Includes ballast train-miles 340.
† Audited up to 9th September 1899.
‡ Excluding ferry.

Approximate Return of Traffic and Mileage for the week ended 28th October 1899 on 139 miles open.

* Coaching traffic calculated on 130 miles only.
† Audited up to week ending 16th September 1899.

(WORKED BY THE B.-N.-W. RAILWAY.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ending 28th October 1899 on 18 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Passengers carried.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
Total traffic for the week on 18 miles open ...	No.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Or per mile of railway ...	419	240	6,718	177	15	438	141	75	116
For previous 4 weeks of half-year ...	33'33	13'34	578'11	9'83	0'83	24'00	.....	.....	...
Total for 12 weeks ...	51	91	25	1	4	96	86	108	144
COMPARISON.	470	331	6,741	178	10	538	177	183	360
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 18 miles open ...	400'00	200'00	600'00	100'00	100'00	200'00	200'00	200'00	400
For mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	200'00	100'00	300'00	50'00	50'00	100'00	100'00	100'00	200
Total to corresponding date of previous year ...	200'00	100'00	300'00	50'00	100'00	200'00	200'00	200'00	400

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 28th October 1899 on 1,085 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 1,085 miles open	118,540	(a) 62,180	5,61,870	(c) 62,04	(b) 13,140	(a) 1,27,290	26,111	(c) 20,530	54,631
Or per mile of railway	109'25	48'08	517'85	57'16	12'11	117'33	...	...	...
For previous 16½ weeks of half-year (d)	2,058,918	7,55,070	96,32,094	10,60,001	2,23,064	20,48,225	619,637	425,012	844,239
Total for 17½ weeks	2,177,458	8,07,250	1,01,93,764	11,22,111	2,41,804	21,70,315	645,738	455,152	820,570
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 925 miles open	101,879	37,765	4,67,060	46,783	16,393	103,900	19,469	(c) 19,198	39,668
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	109'60	40'82	504'92	52'70	17'72	111'24	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,831,671	6,68,075	67,98,891	8,06,347	2,06,760	16,71,188	569,379	390,380	729,659

- (a) Increase is due to the increased mileage.
 (b) The decrease is due to the earnings of Tirhut section for the month of October being included in this week last year on account of breaches.
 (c) Includes 6,203 miles of ballast trains run on open line.
 (d) " audited figures up to week ending 18th September 1899.
 (e) " 2,500 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 4th November 1899 on 1,035 miles open.

	COACHING TRAFFIC.		MERCHANDISE AND MINERAL TRAFFIC.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	TRAFFIC TRAIN-MILES RUN.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Total traffic for the week on 1,035 miles open	(a) 112,880	55,170	(b) 5,47,240	63,350	12,400	(c) 1,30,880	25,966	(c) 27,480	53,446
Or per mile of railway	109'69	50'85	504'66	66'30	11'48	120'63	...	...	...
For previous 17½ weeks of half-year (d)	2,180,892	6,07,870	1,01,74,390	11,18,986	2,35,910	21,57,755	642,901	467,334	980,185
Total for 18½ weeks	2,302,283	6,63,040	1,07,21,730	11,77,216	2,48,370	22,69,635	668,700	494,823	953,523
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 925 miles open	104,678	44,700	5,09,394	66,810	14,453	1,34,963	21,573	(c) 19,675	41,248
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	113'17	46'32	550'70	71'15	15'63	135'10	...	...	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,936,849	7,02,775	73,06,265	8,73,157	2,31,213	17,96,146	590,834	379,965	770,807

- (a) Increase is due to the increased mileage.
 (b) " in weight and decrease in freight is due to shorter lead.
 (c) Includes 5,201 miles of ballast trains run on open line.
 (d) " audited figures up to week ending 23rd September 1899.
 (e) " 2,498 miles of ballast trains run on open line.

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Approximate earnings for the week ending 28th October 1899	7,076	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	18,087	0	0
Decrease	11,011	0	0
Receipts per mile for the week ending 28th October 1899	138	11	11
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	854	10	4
Decrease	215	14	5
Receipts from 1st July to 28th October 1899	1,89,784	0	0
Ditto for the corresponding period of 1898	2,35,597	0	0
Decrease	45,813	0	0



SUPPLEMENT TO The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1899.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

[Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.]

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No. 1317 I.A.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL, MARINE DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNTS.

Dated Calcutta, the 16th November 1899.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

The Canal Revenue Reports for 1898-99 and the Chief Engineer's note on the same.

The Major Irrigation Works in Bengal are the Orissa, the Midnapore, the Hijili Tidal, and the Sone Canals. The first 22 paragraphs of this Resolution will deal with these four works by themselves. *The Minor Works* in the Province are separately treated in paragraphs 23 to 31 inclusive.

2. The capital outlay on these Major Works was Rs. 39,019 during 1898-99 and Rs. 6,42,14,318* to end of the year. The total length of the canals during the year remained the same as last year, viz., 748 miles. Of this length, 495½ miles were both for irrigation and navigation, 223½ miles for irrigation only, and 29 miles for navigation only. The length of distributaries was 2,616½ miles, or 8½ miles more than the previous year. The increase took place in the Orissa and Sone Circles. In Orissa the increase was 6½ miles and in Sone 2 miles. The total area irrigable was 1,370,366 acres. The difference compared with the area shown in the previous year was due to revised figures being given for the Orissa Canals.

* Inclusive of indirect charges, amounting to Rs. 17,50,448.

3. The total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 18,39,942 and the working expenses to Rs. 14,27,467, the net revenue being Rs. 4,12,475, or Rs. 3,22,026 less than in the previous year, but, compared with the average of the previous five years, it showed an increase of about one lakh of rupees.

4. The results of the year's working of the Major Works of Bengal and the capital expenditure to date are exhibited in the following table:—

NAME OF CANAL.	Capital expenditure (direct and indirect) during year.	Capital expenditure (direct and indirect) to date.	Receipts of year, less refunds.	Expenditure of year, including indirect charges.	Net income of year.	Average net income of five years ending 1897-98.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MAJOR WORKS.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Orissa Canals	70,070	2,03,73,181	4,65,402	4,95,213	(-) 29,721	(-) 75,404
Midnapore Canal ... ..	.....	84,06,427	2,38,732	2,73,080	(-) 45,248	(+) 48,024
Hijili Tidal Canal ... ..	.....	26,15,242	74,306	50,029	(+) 24,277	(+) 23,434
Sone Canals	(-) 31,051	2,07,60,408	10,71,412	6,08,243	(+) 4,63,167	(+) 3,20,501
Total for 1898-99 ...	(+) 30,019	6,42,14,318	18,39,942	14,27,467	4,12,475	3,15,065

and the results of all the four works for the year under review and the five previous ones are given in the following table:—

PARTICULARS.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	Average of previous five years.	1898-99.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Receipts from all sources (less re-funds).	Rs. 16,05,005	Rs. 15,20,187	Rs. 15,07,730	Rs. 19,02,205	Rs. 21,72,183	Rs. 17,53,440	Rs. 18,39,942
Working expenses (including indirect charges).	15,41,144	14,03,049	13,84,340	13,06,707	14,37,031	14,39,384	14,27,467
Net Revenue ...	1,23,861	59,078	1,23,390	5,35,498	7,35,152	3,15,065	4,12,475
Charges for interest ...	24,61,878	24,81,893	24,84,409	24,08,000	24,97,817	24,86,819	24,97,828
Deficit ...	23,38,017	24,23,817	23,71,110	18,62,511	17,63,318	21,71,754	20,85,353

The works rather more than pay their working expenses, but the net revenue does not cover, and probably never will cover, the gross interest charges; the financial results, however, are improving, and will, it is believed, continue to improve.

5. The statement below shows the areas irrigated by the Orissa, Midnapore, and Sone Canals for the last ten years and the average rainfall. Except in the case of the Sone Canals, the *rabi* irrigation is too insignificant to be shown separately. The area under the head Perennial is not extensive, and is included under *kharif*:—

YEAR.	Orissa Canals.	Midnapore Canal.	SONE CANALS.			All canals.	Rainfall.
			<i>Kharif</i> , inclusive of hot weather.	<i>Rabi</i> .	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	In.
1888-89	159,292	69,777	255,767	100,142	355,909	584,978	52.71
1889-90	186,627	68,810	249,669	55,613	305,282	580,719	54.02
1890-91	180,299	82,002	229,696	51,318	281,014	543,315	57.03
1891-92	177,685	83,973	263,816	210,907	474,723	736,381	46.65
1892-93	160,952	91,217	284,566	126,195	410,761	662,930	45.13
1893-94	103,526	85,768	300,318	86,458	386,776	556,065	04.03
1894-95	122,561	70,116	275,470	41,964	317,134	509,811	58.15
1895-96	119,460	65,251	279,879	115,343	395,222	579,933	46.05
1896-97	185,048	65,183	339,766	215,390	555,156	805,387	50.51
1897-98	195,602	72,206	330,074	103,371	433,445	701,253	52.70
Average of previous five years.	145,239	71,704	305,101	108,445	413,546	630,489	54.39
1898-99	194,847	74,901	330,761	110,035	440,796	710,544	55.36

The total area irrigated during the year was 710,544 acres, as compared with 701,253 acres in 1897-98, and an average of 630,489 acres during the previous five years. The progress of irrigation on the three large irrigating works—the Orissa, Midnapore, and Sone Canals—fluctuates from year to year, but on the whole there is steady progress. Thus the average area irrigated by these works during the five years ending March 1889 was about 493,000 acres; in the next five years the average was about 612,000 acres, and in the five years ending March 1899 it was about 666,000 acres. In the year of the famine, 1896-97, the area irrigated was over 805,000 acres. This was a bumper year, but in the two years which followed it the area watered did not fall to its former level, but was over 700,000 acres in 1897-98, and over 710,000 acres in 1898-99. This increase in the irrigated area shows that the people are realising more and more that the use of canal water both assures their crop and increases its outturn.

Those advantages were very emphatically brought home to the people in the districts commanded by the Sone Canals in the famine year of 1896-97. In those districts the unirrigated crops failed to a very large extent. This was not the case in the area irrigated by the canals. The canals saved from entire, or almost entire, destruction some 300,000 acres of rice crops, which at the rates prevailing in the famine year were worth at least 150 lakhs of rupees to the people—a sum which is more than half the entire capital cost of the canals. In addition to this, the *rabi* crop, which was largely irrigated in that year, was worth about another 50 or 60 lakhs. It may be safely said that the people in the irrigated tracts were wealthy. They had more than an abundant crop for their personal use, and were able to sell their surplus produce at high rates. These facts have not been forgotten, and the certainty of being able to mature a crop in a bad year and the certainty that in such a year the crops will carry an increased value is making the people keen to secure leases for their lands, so much so that there is no doubt that, in time, it will be possible to materially enhance the water-rates on the Sone Canals at any rate.

6. The areas of the principal crops irrigated during the year compared with those of the previous year were—

			1897-98. Acres.	1898-99. Acres.
Rice	...	...	549,805	562,533
Wheat	...	...	28,215	21,690
Barley	...	...	15,927	15,866
Sugarcane (as one crop)	...	...	31,749	26,607
Total	...	...	625,696	626,696

Rice is irrigated by all the canals, but almost the whole of the wheat barley, and sugarcane crops were on the Sone Canals.

7. The progress made in collecting the canal revenue during the year is shown in the following table:—

CANAL.	DEMAND.			COLLECTIONS (INCLUDING REMISSIONS).			Percent- age of current collection on current demand.	Percent- age of total collection on total demand.
	Arrear.	Current.	Total.	Arrear.	Current.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Orissa Canals ...	Rs. 12,884	Rs. 2,60,971	Rs. 2,73,855	Rs. 12,884	Rs. 2,60,971	Rs. 2,73,855	100·0	100·0
Midnapore Canal	11,617	1,04,242	1,15,859	10,398	99,743	1,10,141	95·68	95·06
Sone Canals ...	3,062	9,26,501	9,29,563	3,062	9,26,501	9,29,563	100·0	100·0

and this table shows other facts bearing on the matter of collections:—

YEAR.	Balance at the beginning of year.	Balance at the end of the year.	Remissions, including cancelled demand statements.	Irrecoverable items.	Certificates issued during the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1888-89 ...	5,59,883	5,79,983	42,666	14,074	20,676
1889-90 ...	5,79,983	5,09,188	80,282	20,592	26,550
1890-91 ...	5,09,188	4,72,113	48,674	16,476	26,149
1891-92 ...	4,72,113	4,04,120	38,421	12,126	15,249
1892-93 ...	4,04,120	2,26,174	61,576	11,168	12,117
1893-94 ...	2,26,174	1,72,235	29,034	4,818	10,685
1894-95 ...	1,72,235	77,498	14,367	4,815	8,281
1895-96 ...	77,498	67,460	8,573	5,371	4,086
1896-97 ...	67,460	25,464	29,640	2,605	3,590
1897-98 ...	25,464	5,657	11,881	1,249	2,368
Average of previous five years ...	1,13,766	69,663	18,699	3,772	5,792
1898-99 ...	5,657	5,718	7,917	626	1,409

The results which these two tables display are eminently satisfactory. The marked decrease in the remission of late years shows that the assessments are more carefully made: the decrease in "irrecoverable items" indicates more care in collection, and not improbably the absence of fraud: the decrease in the certificates is a striking proof both of improved administration in the collections and in the satisfaction of the people with the arrangements, while the fact that, in the Sone and Orissa Canals, the entire demand of the year has been collected is a result bearing evidence, not only to all these points, but to the good work done by the staff and to the good effects of the revised system which has been introduced and matured during the last five years.

8. The collections made under Navigation (excluding miscellaneous navigation receipts and those of the transport services) are shown below for ten years:—

YEAR.	Orissa Canals.	Midnapore Canal.	Hijili Tidal Canal.	Sone Canals.	Total.	Miles open.	Tollage per mile.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Miles.	Rs.
1888-89 ...	69,830	1,46,760	53,910	52,162	3,22,662	496½	649 9
1889-90 ...	78,039	1,46,356	40,838	51,189	3,14,922	496½	634 3
1890-91 ...	1,06,961	1,10,830	27,145	56,593	3,01,529	496½	607 3
1891-92 ...	1,20,761	1,32,572	36,348	57,339	3,47,020	524½	662 2
1892-93 ...	1,00,503	1,14,141	52,180	49,996	3,16,820	524½	604 3
1893-94 ...	1,19,115	1,14,994	58,209	50,548	3,42,866	524½	654 0
1894-95 ...	96,220	1,35,492	57,099	49,349	3,38,160	524½	645 0
1895-96 ...	1,42,617	1,43,918	60,677	51,370	3,98,582	524½	760 6
1896-97 ...	1,55,262	1,54,210	89,511	56,445	4,55,433	524½	874 2
1897-98 ...	1,64,169	1,32,235	90,755	65,042	4,52,201	524½	862 5
Average of previous five years.	1,36,076	1,36,171	71,248	54,651	3,98,046	.....	.....
1898-99 ...	1,36,317	1,03,681	73,759	93,051	4,06,808	526½	776 0

The receipts are Rs. 45,393 less than in the previous year. The decrease occurs on all canals except on those of the Sone, where the construction of the Mogulserai-Gaya Railway abnormally increased the receipts. The gross receipts are slightly in excess of the average of the previous five years.

9. The miscellaneous revenue amounted during the year to Rs. 89,272, as compared with Rs. 90,000 in the previous year: the average for the previous five years ending 1897-98 was Rs. 85,802.

10. On the **Orissa Canals** the net capital outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 67,748. This was expended mainly on the restoration and improvement of the flood bank of the Kendrapara Canal between Mursaghai and Jumboo, and on the construction of permanent outlets.

11. The receipts of the year aggregated Rs. 4,65,492, as compared with Rs. 5,51,924 in 1897-98, and an average of Rs. 4,29,877 for the preceding five years. The decrease in the receipts, when compared with those of the previous year, was under all heads of revenue. The receipts from water-rates fell from Rs. 3,14,729 to Rs. 2,72,382. This was mainly due to the smaller *rabi* irrigation of 1897-98, the demand for which fell due in the year under review, as compared with the year 1896-97, when the area of *rabi* was larger than usual. The demand for *khari* was nearly the same as in the previous year.

12. The area irrigated during the year was 194,847 acres as compared with 195,602 acres in 1897-98. There was a slight increase in the area of *khari* irrigation and a similar decrease in the area of *rabi*. The demand for the year, including a small balance outstanding from the previous year, amounted to Rs. 2,73,855. Of this sum, Rs. 2,72,382 was realized and Rs. 1,473 remitted or written off, leaving nothing in arrears at the close of the year. The number of certificates issued was 686 as against 1,167 in the previous year. These were fully disposed of during the year. The full realization of the demand, together with the decrease in the number of certificates, is very satisfactory.

13. The returns from navigation (tollage) were less by Rs. 27,852 than in the previous year. This was due to a dull season in the export of rice from Orissa, and also to the returns of the previous year having been temporarily raised by the carriage of materials for the railway works which have been under construction.

The transport service in the High Level Canal brought in Rs. 36,332 as against Rs. 47,110 in the year before. The service continued to be profitable, but the competition of the railway has commenced to be felt, and shortly the service will have to be withdrawn altogether from this canal.

14. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 4,95,213 as compared with Rs. 5,39,919 in 1897-98 and Rs. 4,95,743 in 1896-97. Rupees 14,300 were expended on works classed as extensions and improvements. The charges for maintenance were moderate, and the expenditure is regarded as normal for a year in which no exceptional repairs were required.

15. The net result of the year's working was a deficit on the revenue account of Rs. 29,721 as compared with a credit in the previous year of Rs. 12,005. In 1897-98 the returns both from irrigation and navigation were above the normal. A further decline in the receipts from navigation must be looked for on the permanent opening of the railway, which will shortly take place, and returns, more than those of the year under review, can hardly be hoped for unless it is ultimately found possible to increase the water-rates, which it is certainly not possible to do at present.

16. The **Midnapore Canal** was subjected on the 19th and 20th June 1898 to an abnormal flood, which rose at Midnapore to a foot above any which had been previously recorded. It did considerable damage to the canal, and for a short time impeded the working of it. The construction of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway had been advantageous to the canal revenues, as it brought traffic to it, but the opening of the line was disadvantageous, as it drew off a large number of passengers and some goods. The year consequently was not a good one for the canal. The receipts decreased from Rs. 2,74,037 to Rs. 2,28,732, and the expenditure rose from Rs. 2,40,232 to Rs. 2,73,980, causing a deficit of Rs. 45,248, against a profit of Rs. 33,805 in 1897-98. The Midnapore Canal has generally worked at a small profit, showing a net revenue, during the last ten years, of an average of about Rs. 47,000. This is largely dependent on the navigation revenue, which is about half the total: the opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, almost parallel with the canal, must inevitably seriously prejudice its future. Already, in the year under review, the navigation receipts fell from Rs. 1,32,335 in 1897-98 to Rs. 1,03,681 in 1898-99,

although the railway was not completed, but the reduction was due to other causes as well.

17. The area under lease and the area irrigated on the Midnapore Canal increased slightly, although the rainfall was copious and favourable.

The figures were 72,206 acres in 1897-98 and 74,901 acres in the following year. The increase was due to over 4,000 acres of *boro* rice, classed as *rabi*, which was irrigated; the true *kharif* area slightly decreased. The collection of revenue on this canal has not yet reached the high standard which marks the work in the Orissa and Sone Canals: still it is not unsatisfactory and vastly better than it was. The arrears of uncollected water-rates increased slightly during the year, and the complaints were nearly double those of 1897-98. Both these circumstances, however, were due to rather exceptional causes. The collection work was done concurrently with a reduction in the number of certificates issued for the recovery of demands, which is a good feature, but the number of certificates still bears a far higher proportion to the amounts collected than is the case on other canals. The Lieutenant-Governor hopes to see a still further reduction in the number of certificates.

18. The **Hijili Tidal Canal** in the year 1897-98 gave unprecedentedly good results. It is, therefore, hardly a matter of surprise that, compared with that year, there was a falling off in 1898-99. The receipts were less, but still not below the average of a series of years: the expenses were greater by some Rs. 10,000, but only slightly above the average of the last five years. The navigation receipts were Rs. 73,759 as compared with Rs. 90,755 in the previous year, and the working expenses were Rs. 50,029 as compared with Rs. 39,388.

19. On the **Sone Canals** Rs. 12,522 was spent on works, chiefly in completing the syphon on the Behea Branch Canal, but the net capital outlay was a minus figure owing to sales of navigation plant. The total receipts from all sources amounted to Rs. 10,71,412 against Rs. 12,54,790 in the previous year, i.e., a decrease of Rs. 1,83,378, due mainly to the smaller *rabi* area irrigated in 1897-98 than in the famine year of 1896-97, the *rabi* collections appearing in the ensuing year to that in which the irrigation is effected. The total receipts were greater than in any previous year, with the exception of 1897-98. The decrease in the amount of the water-rates was Rs. 2,13,228. Under the head of Navigation the receipts are the largest on record, and amounted to Rs. 1,05,564, or Rs. 17,138 more than in the previous year, the large revenue being mainly due to the carriage of materials for the construction of the Mogulserai-Gaya Railway. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 6,08,245 as compared with Rs. 6,18,142 in 1897-98, the difference being mainly in establishment charges. Under extensions and improvements there was less expenditure, but there was, increased expenditure on repairs, owing mainly to extra repairs which were necessary to special works. The working expenses, however, of these canals have, during the last five years, been decreased by about a lakh of rupees a year. The net revenue in 1898-99, owing to the decrease in water-rates, was Rs. 1,73,481 less than in the previous year.

20. The rainfall of the year, though somewhat in excess of last year, was not nearly so favourably distributed in regard to the *kharif* season. In June, during the ploughing and sowing period, the rainfall was insufficient, whilst in mid-September, when water was least needed, heavy rain fell. In the early part of October, again, when it was most necessary for the maturity of the rice crop, it held off altogether. The want of rain early in October caused a very heavy demand for canal water, and the canals were strained to their utmost to meet the requirements of cultivators; the strain, however, was most satisfactorily met, as, in anticipation of coming events, timely arrangements were, owing to the favourable state of the river, made by the divisional officers. In regard to the *rabi* season the rainfall was normal and more favourable than that of the previous year, heavy and beneficial rain falling in January instead of February.

21. The area irrigated during the year was 440,796 acres against 433,415 acres in the previous year and an average of 413,546 acres during the preceding five years. There was an increase under long-term leases-conse-

quently a slight drop in kharif season leases occurred. The continued appreciation of these long-term leases is most satisfactory; not only have applications for renewal of nearly the whole area of the leases made in 1892-93, which have now expired, been received, but further applications were submitted for 38,327 acres, of which 27,800 acres had to be refused. This refusal has been necessary, mainly for the reasons stated in last year's report, viz., unsuitability of situation and deficiency of water. The absence of rain in the early part of October not only increased the demand for *rabi* sowings (which, however, was checked by the timely rain in the middle of October) but also increased the sale of water by volume. In the canal-irrigated tracts the cultivators reaped good and abundant harvests, but their realizations were less, as the ruling prices of grain were much lower than in the previous year.

22. The current demand of the year was Rs. 9,31,979, inclusive of arrears of the previous year. The remissions and sums written off as irrecoverable amounted to Rs. 2,963, which is the lowest on record. The amount remitted on revised and cancelled "khatianes" was Rs. 1,520 against Rs. 2,250. The entire demand, which remained after these alterations in it had been effected, was fully recovered, and there was no outstanding balance at all at the end of the year. Only 376 certificates were issued under the Public Demands Recovery Act [No. 1 (B.C.) of 1895], which is less than half the number of the previous year. The number of applications for remissions, &c., decreased from 5,351 to 4,371. The foregoing results show continued improvement, and, in so far as the collections are concerned, cannot be surpassed.

23. The capital outlay on canals classed as **Minor Works and Navigation** was Rs. 95,036 during the year and Rs. 1,24,76,707* to end of the year. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 6,10,092 and working expenses to Rs. 5,12,988, the net revenue being Rs. 97,104, or Rs. 19,982 less than the average of the previous five years.

The financial results of the year and the capital expenditure to date are shown in the following table:—

	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE— (DIRECT AND INDIRECT).		Receipt of the year less refunds.	Expenditure of the year including indirect charges.	Net income of the year.	Average net income of five years ending 1897-98.
	Of year.	To end of year.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Calcutta and Eastern Canals.	66,286	64,61,252	4,09,281	2,80,677	(+) 1,28,604	(+) 1,76,946
Orissa Coast Canal .	14,936	45,83,412	73,094	82,288	(—) 9,194	(+) 3,655
Saran Canals ...	15,014	7,21,688	4,992	1,257	(+) 3,735	(—) 5,465
Nadia Rivers ...	.....	.....	89,416	99,122	(—) 10,006	(—) 11,696
Eden Canal ...	.....	.....	28,725	89,380	(—) 10,655	(—) 33,029
Madhuban Canal ...	.....	.....	120	9,669	(—) 9,449	(—) 6,373
Gaighata and Baxi Khal.	.....	.....	4,464	395	(+) 4,069	(—) (b) 7,022
Total for 1898-99...	96,236 (a)	1,17,15,252	6,10,092	5,12,988	(+) 97,104	(+) 1,17,086

(a) Exclusive of Rs. (—) 1,200 for the Damodar Project.

(b) Average of four years ending 1897-98.

24. The Calcutta and Eastern Canals are a series of navigable channels, partly natural and partly artificial, connecting Calcutta with the Eastern Districts of Bengal. They have been greatly improved during the last twenty years at a capital cost of some 32 lakhs of rupees. The improvements, while they have given large facilities to the traffic, have not, in them-

* Includes Rs. 6,06,075 and Rs. 1,55,380 expended on the two abandoned projects, viz., Tirhut and Damodar, and also Rs. 8,66,000 contributed by the Imperial Government from the Famine Relief and Insurance Fund for expenditure on the Orissa Coast Canal.

selves, proved directly remunerative. The Canals twenty years ago paid from five to six per cent. on their capital. Now the percentage on the average of the last five years has been reduced to a little over three per cent. and in 1897-98 the net revenue only gave two per cent. on the capital. The past year was, in some respects, exceptional, and an increase in the traffic and in the returns is anticipated. The receipts during the year were Rs. 4,09,281, against Rs. 4,26,203 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 16,922, and the working expenses were Rs. 2,80,677, or Rs. 79,272 more than those of the year 1897-98. There was a decrease of Rs. 96,194 in the net revenue of the year. Of this, nearly sixty thousand was due to an increase in establishment charge, which was partly real, but mainly due to the fact that, in the previous year, there had been certain adjustments of accounts which had resulted in a somewhat artificial enhancement of the net revenue of that year. There was a decrease in the number and maundage of the boats using the channels and in the number of the steamers and flats. Altogether the results of the year were unsatisfactory, but there is reason to think that this was to some extent exceptional and mainly due to the fact that the year was an unfavourable one for the jute trade, which largely affects the canal revenue.

25. The steamers and flats using the Sundarban route continued to increase. The channel known as the Angeria creek, is the only connection suitable for steamers, which exists on one portion of the route: more than one attempt has been made, but unsuccessfully, to find an alternative to it. It is therefore an important link in the connection between Calcutta and Assam. Some improvements were effected in it during the year. One alternative route, which has been suggested, is that known as the Bhil channel, between the Madhumari and Kumar river in the Faridpur district. This channel has since 1894 been improved at a cost of some Rs. 25,000, and in 1897-98, Rs. 4,000 were expended in making a diversion in the 14th mile of the route. It is rather disappointing to find that the facilities which have been afforded, by the expenditure which has been incurred, have not led to the general use of the channel when it is open in the rainy season. In 1898 and in 1899 the steamers did not use the channel at all, although it obviously presents great advantages. There is reason to think that it could be greatly improved, at comparatively moderate expense, if it is only kept open for a limited time when the neighbouring rivers are high; but if the improvements which have been carried out do not attract the traffic, it seems doubtful whether further expenditure is justifiable. The Chamber of Commerce and the Steamer Companies correctly represent the great advantages of this route, not only in itself in saving distance, but also as an alternative to the one mentioned above, and the matter is receiving the attention of Government; but, so far, the results which have attended the improvements actually executed are not encouraging.

26. The **Orissa Coast Canal** is a continuation of the Hijili Tidal Canal. Its revenue suffered in the same way. The receipts amounted to Rs. 73,094, against Rs. 85,450 in the previous year, and the working expenses were Rs. 82,288, as compared with Rs. 61,045. The financial results of the year are far from satisfactory, the net revenue being a deficit of Rs. 9,194, against a profit of Rs. 24,405 in 1897-98.

The opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway no doubt affected the revenue of this canal, and will continue to do so.

27. The **Saran Canals** remained closed during the year under review.

28. The **Nadia Rivers** are gradually losing their position as a great trade route to Calcutta. In the five-yearly period ending in March 1893 the average weight of cargo paying toll was about 88 lakhs of maunds—in the quinquennial period ending in March 1898 it was only something more than 60 lakhs of maunds, and in 1898-99 this had fallen to rather more than 40 lakhs of maunds. As railway communication develops these rivers must probably continue to decrease in importance. Meanwhile, economy in expenditure has somewhat reduced the loss which these rivers now involve. The receipts were Rs. 89,416 as compared with Rs. 89,043 in the previous year, and the working expenses were Rs. 99,422 against Rs. 1,08,850; the net revenue being a reduction in the deficit from Rs. 19,816 to Rs. 10,606. But these results bring little

satisfaction when it is remembered that in the quinquennial period ending March 1888, the average results were an annual profit of about one lakh of rupees: in the similar period ending March 1893, they were about 70 thousand rupees: and in the similar period ending March 1898, there was an average annual loss of about one thousand rupees only.

29. The **Eden Canal** was worked during the year at a much smaller loss than usual. The receipts from the canal were Rs. 28,725 against Rs. 35,835, and the working expenses were Rs. 39,380, as compared with Rs. 67,037 in the previous year, the result being a reduction in the deficit from Rs. 31,202 in 1897-98 to Rs. 10,655 in 1898-99.

The area irrigated during the year was 29,757 acres as compared with 24,487 acres in the previous year, showing an increase of 5,270 acres. The arrears of uncollected revenue at the end of the year was Rs. 9,312, which, although it is less than in former years, is still an unduly large amount.

30. The **Madhuban Canal** irrigated during the year 3,190 acres as compared with 2,000 acres in 1897-98, showing an increase of 1,190 acres. This was due to the great demand for water from the middle of October to the end of December. For maintaining the canal Rs. 9,569 were expended during the year against Rs. 6,471 in the previous year.

31. The **Gaighatta and Buxi khal** was maintained during the year at a cost of Rs. 395 against Rs. 681 in the previous year. Rupees 4,500, being the amount of the annual lease, less Rs. 36 refunded, were realised from the lessees during the year.

32. The improvement in the collection of the canal revenue on the three large irrigating systems, which were noticed in previous years, was carried still further in the year under review. The facts are very striking when it is remembered how large the arrears used to be in former years. In the five years ending March 1889 the uncollected balance at the end of each year averaged nearly 6 lakhs of rupees, in the the next quinquennial period it was rather more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, while in the last period it was about Rs. 36,000. At the end of the year now under review (1898-99), the outstanding uncollected balance is less than Rs. 6,000, while in the Orissa and Sone canals there is no outstanding at all: the whole demand has been collected. This improvement in collections has been accompanied by a very marked decrease in the number of certificates issued (as shown in paragraph 7 of this Resolution), which indicates that the people are satisfied and content to pay the demands without compulsion. Further, the remissions and amounts written off as irrecoverable show, at the same time, a marked decrease, indicating greater accuracy and promptness on the part of the officers who are responsible for the assessments. The Lieutenant-Governor acknowledges, again, the excellent work done by the Deputy Collectors and especially by Maulvi Syed Mahomed Nasiruddin and Babu Madhav Lal in reorganizing and improving the work of the collection staff.

33. The year 1898-99 was one of very high floods in the Cossye, Selye, Subarnarekha and Damodar rivers in June 1898, and in the Sikrana or Boor-Gandak and Bagmati rivers in September 1898. The floods which occurred in the Cossye and Sikrana rivers were extraordinary and unprecedented, and very disastrous in their effects. The Cossye floods did considerable damage to the embankments, canal works and distributaries in the Midnapore district.

The Sikrana floods submerged a vast area of country in the Champaran and Muzaffarpur districts, and did considerable damage to the Champaran, Tirhut and Turki embankments, as also to the District Board roads and bridges and railway embankments. The floods destroyed many houses and standing crops; many cattle were lost and human lives also. The damage done to the embankments and canal works by the floods of the Selye, Subarnarekha and Damodar rivers was not serious.

34. The Irrigation Department of this Province was in charge of Colonel A. D. McArthur, R.E., Chief Engineer, during the year. Since it expired he has retired from the Public Works Department, after serving in it, in the Irrigation Department of Bengal, for more than 30 years. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to record his appreciation of the work done by Colonel McArthur, in almost all parts of the Province, during his long service in it.

The Superintending Engineers, Mr. Inglis, Mr. Horn and Mr. Toogood, were in charge of the three Irrigation Circles. The Lieutenant-Governor acknowledges the efficiency of their services. The large reduction in the expenditure on repairs during the last few years in the Sone Canals, and especially in the Arrah Division, is partly due to the able management of Mr. C. H. DeMello.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution and of the Chief Engineer's note and its accompaniments be submitted to the Government of India, in the Public Works Department, and published in the *Calcutta Gazette*. Also that it be circulated to other Governments and to all Departments and officers of this Government as usual.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

R. B. BUCKLEY,

*Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
Irrigation Department.*

Government of Bengal.

IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE REPORT.

Note by R. B. BUCKLEY, Esq., Chief Engineer, on the Canal Revenue Reports of Bengal for the year 1898-99.

The Capital expenditure on Irrigation Works in 1898-99 was as follows:—

	Direct charges.	Indirect charges.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Capital expenditure on Major Irrigation Works not charged against Revenue ...	36,304	2,715	39,019
Capital expenditure on Minor Works and Navigation for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept ...	93,632	1,404	95,036
	<u>1,29,936</u>	<u>4,119</u>	<u>1,34,055</u>

2. The total Capital outlay at the end of the year 1898-99, including indirect charges, was:—

	Direct charges.	Indirect charges.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<i>Major Irrigation Works—</i>			
Productive Public Works ...	6,24,63,875	17,50,443	6,42,14,318
<i>Minor Works and Navigation—</i>			
Protective grants—Imperial ...	8,66,000	.....	8,66,000
Ordinary revenue { Imperial and Provincial. } ...	1,12,93,765	3,16,942	1,16,10,707
Total ...	<u>7,46,23,640</u>	<u>20,67,385</u>	<u>7,66,91,025</u>